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BATTLE ROYAL RASLIN'..
TEXAS STYLE!

March 1976

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WRESTLING
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CRUCIAL
TASK:

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ERNIE LADD...
OR RETIRE!

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IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD!"

THE BLOODY
RETURN OF
THE SHEIK



TERRY FUNK:
RIDIN' HIGH ON THE
CHAMPIONSHIP EXPRESS

POWERFUL MUSCLES FAST !!!



FASTEST MUSCLE BUILDING SYSTEM KNOWN TO MAN!

Muscle Builders can add 10" of steel-like muscles to your chest, 6" to your arms, and can melt 12" from your waist.

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With our **HALF INCH A DAY SYSTEM**, you can actually gain up to ½ inch of muscle per day. For a limited time, this fantastic system is being offered as a **FREE BONUS** with Muscle Builders.

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ASTONISH YOUR FRIENDS!!!

In just weeks, you'll astonish your friends as your muscles grow and develop. Men will respect you and girls will admire your new masculine build. In just a few minutes a day, you can build a powerful, muscular body — so impressive that you will command respect and attention from everyone you come in contact with. Regardless of your present build, we can and will build you a powerful body — a body **RIPPLING WITH MUSCLES**.

ARMS —

You can build big, powerful arms that command respect! We'll add inches of rock-hard muscle to your biceps and triceps. Your arms will be alive with muscle.

CHEST —

Everyone notices a massive chest that looks like its bursting through a shirt. A big chest has always been the sign of a powerful man. How big do you want your chest to be — 47, 48, 50 inches or more?

BACK —

You can have the kind of broad back that attracts immediate attention. With a power-packed muscular back, you can be the center of female attention.

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Nothing is more impressive than wide, rugged shoulders. You can fill your jackets and shirts with He-Man shoulders. Broad shoulders make you stand out in any crowd.

LEGS —

Your legs are the seat of your strength and athletic ability. You can have strong, panther-like legs that will make you a star in any sport!

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How would you like a trim abdomen hard enough to take any punch with no pain? You can have a muscular, impressive abdomen that protects against injury.

HERE'S WHAT OTHERS SAY:

Your course is great! In just 4 weeks I've gained 4½ inches on my chest and 2 inches on my arms.

J. Stroy, Ohio

I've gained a lot of muscle since I started your course. My arms are up to 17½". My chest is now up to 48½".

R. Ott, New York

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232 W. Front St., Napoleon, OH 43545**

Rush me all that free muscle-building information in a plain wrapper so I can build powerful muscles fast. I am enclosing 25¢ to help cover postage and handling costs. I am under no obligation

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

The secret of teaching yourself music



It's just organized common sense, says this 75-year-old home-study school. Their step-by-step word-and-picture instructions take the mystery out of learning to play the piano, the guitar, or the spinet organ.

It may seem odd at first—the idea of teaching yourself music. You might think you need a private teacher at \$4 to \$10 an hour to stand beside you and explain everything you should do—and tell you when you've made a mistake.

But surprising as it seems, you need no such thing. Thousands of people have taught themselves to play with the lessons we give by mail. And you can too.

The secret lies in the step-by-step way our lessons teach you. Starting from scratch, they show you with simple words and pictures exactly what to do. You learn to play correctly—by note, from sheet music. Without gimmicks.

But how do you know you're doing it right? Easy. A lot of the tunes you'll practice first are simple songs you've heard before. And since you already know how they're supposed to sound, you can tell right away when you've "got them right."

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Convenient and Economical

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you nervous. And because you teach yourself, you set your own pace.

And you'll be delighted to discover how economical it is. The cost comes to less than you'd have to pay a private teacher.

There Are So Many Rewards

How effective are the lessons? Ask Mrs. Norman Johanson, one of our recent graduates. "My daughter," writes Mrs. Johanson, "has taken lessons for 8 years from a private teacher, and now she asks me questions about some of her lessons. How very proud I feel when she says to friends, 'You just have to hear my Mom play!'"

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Mail Coupon Today

If you'd like to learn more about this convenient, pleasant way to teach yourself music, send for our free booklet "Be Your Own Music Teacher." With it, we'll include a free "Note-Finder."

There's no obligation. Just mail the coupon today to U.S. SCHOOL OF MUSIC. A Home Study School Since 1898.



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"Home Study School Since 1898."

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Chicago, Illinois 60605

I'm interested in learning to play the instrument checked below. Please send me, FREE, your illustrated booklet "Be Your Own Music Teacher." Also include your free "Note-Finder." I am under no obligation. The instrument I would like to play is (check only one):

- ☐ Piano ☐ Guitar (pick style)
☐ Spinet Organ (2 keyboards)

Mr. _____
Mrs. _____
Miss _____ Age _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Accredited Member National Home Study Council

Inside Wrestling

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ISOKINETICS Will Build Your Muscles Faster...or you get your money right back!



HERE'S RESULTS FAST — SURE — PROOF

A group of researchers stated that all published research matching isokinetics with weight lifting and isometrics showed that isokinetics is greatly superior for muscle building.

● "After four weeks of using the exerciser, my strength has doubled thanks to you." —J Castillo, AK.

● "I'm beginning to look like I did when I got out of the Marine Corps." —Don C., PA.

● "In just 6 weeks, I put 2" on my arms, 3" on my chest, 2" on my thighs, and gained 22 lbs." —N.D.

● "In complete honesty, I think it is a great exercise program... the best one on the market!!!!" —Dave Fuss, IL.

● "You just aren't another rip-off company. You back what you say." —T Roeklein, WI.

● "I've averaged from 2-3" on my legs, arms, and chest—I'm glad that I did invest the money." —Richard Ozer, MT.

● "Enclosed is my money order (for a new Powerex). I know how good it is. I had one and I lost it. I am in several sports and cannot win without Powerex. It is the greatest!" —G Scott, Canada.

● "Arms increased 2 1/2", chest 3", decreased waist 2", and gained 20 lbs.—look and feel a lot better!" —Joseph Moreno, CA.

● "I used to be a singles man — this season I was a home run hitter, and I credit Powerex with this." —T J, AL.

● "The results are just FANTASTIC!" —Richard Lynn, MN.

ILLUSTRATED WALL CHART COURSES

POWEREX is safe, and light — under two pounds. POWEREX is compact, quick and easy to use, anytime, anywhere. At no extra cost, you also get a big 20 x 28-inch wall chart with illustrations and instructions. Several courses are described... for increased strength, bigger muscles, or turning fat into muscle. One course takes only 15 minutes a week.



THIS IS OUR UNCONDITIONAL MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

POWEREX must bring you results. Try it for 14 days. If you are not satisfied with your POWEREX for any reason whatsoever just send it back for an immediate full refund of your money. No questions... no delays! We want you to be satisfied! AND in addition, we guarantee all parts and workmanship for one full year from date of purchase!

Scientific Test PROVES Isokinetics

- 166% Better Than Weights
 - 390% Better Than Isometrics
- ### For Putting Muscle on YOU!

Isokinetics is now proved superior to weight training for building your strength, body and explosive power... faster, more effectively than any other method.

A leading medical journal published the scientific experiments of recognized researchers. Average peak strength improvement after only 8 weeks for each type of exercise was:

Isokinetics..... 47.2%
Weight Training... 28.6%
Isometrics..... 12.1%

During each Isokinetic exercise, you continually change the "weight" to the amount that your muscles need for fastest maximum development... without stopping. Until recently the only Isokinetic exercisers available were complicated machines costing from \$120 to over \$4000. But NOW, A NEW invention, amazing in its beautiful simplicity, puts Isokinetic muscle building within your reach for only a few dollars.

POWEREX — ISOKINETICS

The invention is POWEREX — an Isokinetic exerciser designed to give you the ultimate benefits of muscle strength, and explosive power faster than ever. And, as you know, with this comes the added benefits of confidence, and the outgoing personality that enables you to get along well with others of both sexes.

POWEREX is going to do all this for you thru the following ISOKINETIC PRINCIPLES:

- (1) **POWEREX** builds your muscles through their full range of movement. It works every small muscle fiber to its utmost. Not the grunt-and-groan partial static results of an Isometric gadget, but the total dynamic power of Isokinetics.
- (2) **POWEREX** has the exclusive **CONTROL LEVERS**. You instantly and smoothly change the amount of "weight" working for you, to the maximum your muscles can handle... from zero to hundreds of pounds, quickly building your body into a classic, powerful machine!

LOW COST — ORDER NOW

The best part is POWEREX costs you only \$13.95. For about 1/10th the cost of the next isokinetic exerciser on the market, the benefits of isokinetic muscle building are yours!

So don't wait another moment... fill out the coupon, write your check or money order, and get it in the mail now. The sooner you do, the sooner you receive your POWEREX and start the isokinetic way to a muscular body and dynamic power!

ORDER ON 14 DAY TRIAL

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Please Rush me my Powerex isokinetic exerciser and wall chart of exercises. I enclose ☐ check or ☐ money order for \$13.95 plus \$1 shipping and handling (total \$14.95). No COD's. (California residents please add 84¢ sales tax.) I understand that, for any reason whatsoever, I may return my Powerex and chart within 14 days of receipt for a full refund of my \$14.95—no questions asked.

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POWEREX: Rm. L-16 5511 Ekwil Santa Barbara, CA 93111

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

CHAMPION: BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1—BILLY GRAHAM
- 2—IVAN KOLOFF
- 3—ERNIE LADD
- 4—IVAN PUTSKI
- 5—SPIROS ARION
- 6—BUGSY MCGRAW
- 7—HAYSTACKS CALHOUN
- 8—DOMINIC DENUCCI
- 9—FRANCISCO FLORES
- 10—KEVIN SULLIVAN

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

CHAMPION: NICK BOCKWINKLE

- 1—VERNE GAGNE
- 2—BILLY ROBINSON
- 3—BARON VON RASCHKE
- 4—BRUISER
- 5—OX BAKER
- 6—CRUSHER
- 7—PAMPERO FIRPO
- 8—JACQUES GOULET
- 9—BULL BULLINSKI
- 10—SOLDIER LEBOUF

MOST POPULAR

- 1—MIL MASCARAS
- 2—IVAN PUTSKI
- 3—DUSTY RHODES
- 4—BRUNO SAMMARTINO
- 5—MR. WRESTLING II
- 6—MIGHTY IGOR
- 7—CHIEF JAY STRONGBOW
- 8—ANDRE THE GIANT
- 9—JACK BRISCO
- 10—BOBO BRAZIL



TERRY FUNK



BRUNO SAMMARTINO

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

CHAMPION: TERRY FUNK

- 1—JACK BRISCO
- 2—HARLEY RACE
- 3—SHOEHI BABA
- 4—PAUL JONES
- 5—DORY FUNK JR.
- 6—CYCLONE NEGRO
- 7—THE SHEIK
- 8—JERRY LAWLER
- 9—MR. WRESTLING II
- 10—PAT PATTERSON

TAG TEAMS

- 1—TONY PARISI & LOUIS CERDAN
- 2—BRUISER & CRUSHER
- 3—THE VALIANT BROTHERS
- 4—THE MONGOLS
- 5—ROGER KIRBY & RIP HAWK
- 6—THE ANDERSON BROTHERS
- 7—THE INFERNO
- 8—CYCLONE & OMAR NEGRO
- 9—RAY STEVENS & NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 10—PAT PATTERSON & PEDRO MORALES

WOMEN

CHAMPION: FABULOUS MOOLAH

- 1—VICKI WILLIAMS
- 2—JOYCE GRABLE
- 3—SUE GREEN
- 4—DONNA CHRISTENELLO
- 5—SUSAN SEXTON
- 6—LEILANA KAI
- 7—BELLE STARR
- 8—SHEILA SHEPPARD
- 9—KITTY ADAMS
- 10—DOTTY DOWNS



NICK BOCKWINKLE



FABULOUS MOOLAH

IMPOSSIBLE?

"Every successful bodybuilder has got to use the most advanced bodybuilding methods available—UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING offers the best! Using UNIVERSAL methods, I have made excellent gains!"

Brian Eastman

NOT
FOR
THE
SUPER

BODYBUILDING SYSTEM!

**BE BETTER THAN THE BEST,
BE DYNAMIC!**

AFTER

MOST MEN NEVER REALIZE THEIR POTENTIAL FOR MUSCULARITY. Why? Probably because they've never come across or taken advantage of a training program quite like the one we offer here at UNIVERSAL BODYBUILDING. Our course has the ULTIMATE MASTERPLAN for TOTAL BODY DEVELOPMENT!

Very few men are satisfied with the way they look at present. They know themselves that they wouldn't mind having a REALLY MASCULINE BODY — one that will "turn on" the girls and make the guys envious.

WITH UNIVERSAL METHODS, YOU CAN BREAK OUT OF YOUR "OLD" SELF, AND TRANSFORM YOUR BODY INTO AN ATTENTION-GETTER!!! WE GUARANTEE TO IMPROVE YOUR BODY FAR BEYOND WHAT YOU'VE EVER BELIEVED POSSIBLE! We have perfected bodybuilding training techniques to the extreme, so that we can offer you the fastest gains possible. If you're thin and underweight, you'll be astonished at how quickly muscles appear. If you're overweight, we can help you to trim down the fat and replace it with rock-hard muscle. We'll tone up your abdominal area, and show you how to obtain a well-defined and impressive waist.

Add 2 or 3 inches to your arms, 4 or 5 inches to your chest — your rewards will be in direct proportion to your effort and accomplishments — nobody sets a limit to your success.

In the time it takes to complete this 12 lesson course, we can guarantee you a muscular foundation fantastic enough to be developed to your fullest potential!!! You can go far beyond mere "improvement" with the Advanced Training Techniques included in this course. We can give you the firm, rippling, muscular body of a physique star!!! Send in for our FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY (fantastic information about our course — loaded with unbelievable photographs). You won't regret it!!!

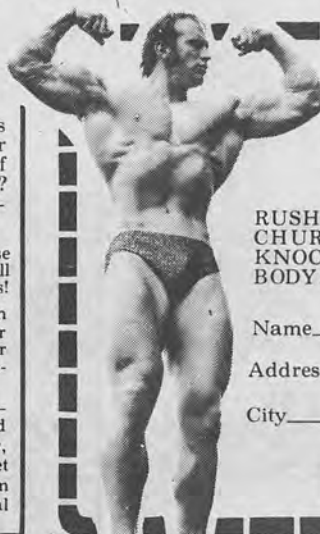
**INSTANTLY -
YOUR MUSCLES
WILL BEGIN
TO GROW!**

BEFORE

BE GREAT - BE SOMEBODY SPECIAL!

Improve your health, self-confidence and your outlook on life as you become more muscular. Regardless of your age, height or present build, we'll help you build a fabulous body. Thousands of people have taken this course with fantastic results — why not you? Whatever you look like today, we can improve on it. We guarantee it!!!

- ☐ **ARMS** — Develop big, powerful arms — the kind girls love to be held in! Command respect from everyone you meet!
- ☐ **CHEST** — Is your chest sunken and unimpressive? No more! It's easy to build a massive chest. You can measure 45, 47, or even 50 inches!
- ☐ **BACK** — Develop your upper back, and get that outstanding "V-Shape!" Often within one week you'll be able to see that wedge formation begin to take shape — it's a real attention-getter!
- ☐ **SHOULDERS** — Get rid of those puny shoulders! Instead, fill your shirts with bulging muscles!
- ☐ **LEGS** — Put some muscle on those spindly legs! Muscular legs will give you extra power like you've never dreamed possible!
- ☐ **ABDOMEN** — Trim and hard — that's the way your abs should look. Get rid of your pot-belly, improve your digestion, and get that washboard waist—all when you develop those abdominal muscles!



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Dearborn, Michigan 48121

FREE!

RUSH me those FREE COLORFUL BROCHURES TODAY! I want to be able to KNOCK 'EM DEAD with a FABULOUS BODY!!!

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

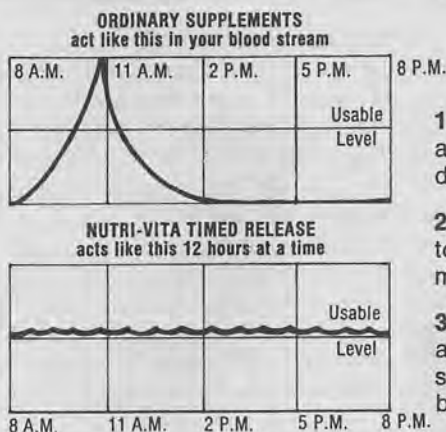
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Revolutionary New Timed-Release Nutrient Tablet AUTOMATICALLY REPLACES THE VITAMINS YOUR BODY USES UP, EVERY SECOND OF EVERY DAY!

Actually meters out 42 active vitamins, minerals and essential amino acids... hour after hour... in a continuous fresh supply.



These three biological breakthroughs make
NUTRI-VITA dramatically more effective:

- 1. TIMED RELEASE.** Ordinary tablets and capsules dissolve immediately and begin to leave the body. Nutri-Vita stays in your blood stream for all day, all night action.
- 2. CHELATED MINERALS.** Nutri-Vita's minerals are biologically bonded to protein. This makes them more available to your system than ordinary mineral supplements.
- 3. INGREDIENT ISOLATION.** Many vitamin and mineral combinations actually **neutralize themselves on contact**—in the tablet or in your stomach. Nutri-Vita's ingredients stay separate—and effective until your body uses them.

Vitamins, minerals and amino acids—are essential to human health. No wonder millions of Americans choose to augment their family's diet with a vitamin-mineral supplement every day.

But up to now, NO supplement could give you the vitamins, minerals, and amino acids you need... **at precisely the moment you need them.** NUTRI-VITA does! Because unless all the right ingredients are furnished at the right time, many of the nutrients in the food you eat will be wasted.

SCIENTIFICALLY FORMULATED FOR MAXIMUM BIOLOGICAL VALUE. Fifteen years in the development, Nutri-Vita has been used and tested by hundreds of world champion athletes, and by ordinary men and women all over the country. They report increased endurance*, greater capacity to handle heavy workloads**, and less fatigue*** when using Nutri-Vita as compared to any preparation they used before. **Nutri-Vita even helps maintain energy levels while dieting****.**

That's because Nutri-Vita's formulation is not only nutritionally superior in itself, it incorporates **totally new concepts** of manufacture that provide maximum biological value for your body.

Here is how this special nutritional supplement achieves the kind of superior action that has never been available from any tablet or capsule before:

ROUND-THE-CLOCK NUTRIENT PROTECTION. Vitamins (except A, D, E, and K) are water soluble and cannot be stored in the body for later use. Any excess is passed through the body and lost. With supplements that dissolve all at once, therefore, the vitamin level may quickly peak at far more than the tissues can use at any one time—then just as quickly sink to the previous level. So even though you take a high potency supplement you may actually be vitamin starved for most of the day!

Nutri-Vita tablets, on the other hand are timed release... to meter out fresh nutrients constantly. They rise to the proper level for maximum utilization in your blood, ready for your body to use them as it needs them—for up to 12 hours at a time. By taking Nutri-Vita just morning and night, you get round-the-clock nutrient protection that's substantially more available to your system than the same amount of vitamins in ordinary capsules and tablets.

POTENCY PROTECTED. Many products ignore the fact that certain vitamins and minerals are chemically incompatible and react very readily to neutralize each other. That is why all of the ingredients in a Nutri-Vita tablet are isolated from each other by a special patented process. This keeps them potent until the moment of absorption into the blood stream, where deactivation is no longer a problem. With Nutri-Vita, your body gets what the label says.

Nutri-Vita is many times more active because, we use a process known as chelation (from the Greek "kelos" for claw). In it, minerals are bonded to protein with a biochemical "claw." Masked by the protein, the

minerals now seem organic to your body and are readily absorbed. This process is so effective that studies have shown chelated minerals to be more available to the body than ordinary minerals. All minerals in Nutri-Vita are chelated.

PLUS ALL THE ESSENTIAL AMINO ACIDS. Proteins are the building blocks of tissues. And amino acids are the building blocks of protein. Those amino acids which the body cannot manufacture for itself are called essential amino acids and must be furnished every day. Nutri-Vita releases the eight essential amino acids into your blood stream all day long—ready at meal times and snack times to help complete the proteins in the food you eat.

Famous National, Olympic and World Record Champions Compare Nutri-Vita in these unsolicited comments:

"Strength has increased without a concurrent weight increase."

Richard B. Watson—Two-time N.J. Decathlon Champion

"Personally, my teammates... and I can feel the beneficial effects of Nutri-Vita hours after ingestion... the inclusion of protein (maintains) energy levels while dieting."

Richard E. Morris*—Greater Atlantic Coast Powerlift Champion, 1974**

"Our crew was introduced to Nutri-Vita... while we were preparing for... the Royal Henley Regatta in England. I was very impressed with how the oarsmen responded. They seemed to recuperate faster and their overall fatigue level was improved."

Gary Kilpatrick*—Varsity Lightweight Crew Coach, Princeton University**

"Nutri-Vita (makes) hard work seem a lot easier. As I am not a chemist, I can not understand how it works, but as an athlete, I know it does work."

Carl Barisch, Cleveland Browns

"I have used Nutri-Vita for over two years now, and have felt quite a difference in my training and performance. Nutri-Vita helps recovery time and increases endurance."

Fred Samara—1975 National AAU Decathlon Champion

"We used (Nutri-Vita) with both university swimmers and age group swimmers. The most noticeable effect being increased capacity to handle heavy work loads in training... Excellent and a valuable asset to athletes."

William Farley*—Varsity Swimming Coach, Princeton Univ. Coach, Eastern Collegiate Swimming Championship Team, 1973, 1974**

IMPORTANT NEWS IF YOU SMOKE. Tobacco and vitamins are antagonists. A cigarette destroys vitamin C in your system. Nutri-Vita helps protect you against such deficiencies by constantly releasing a fresh supply of vitamins after every cigarette. It's the round-the-clock source of all the nutrients your body is known to need, in the form it can use them best.

NUTRI-VITA WILL WORK FOR YOU OR YOUR MONEY BACK. Would you like to provide your family with "vitamin insurance"? Nutri-Vita can give you the help you need. Because Nutri-Vita provides large doses of nutrients in a concentrated form every hour of every day. That way your body selects exactly the nutrients it needs at exactly the moment it needs them. Doesn't this make much more sense than assaulting your system with a massive dosage of vitamins once a day, many of which will be simply excreted?

See for yourself whether Nutri-Vita helps make you and every member of your family feel the way famous athletes say it makes them feel... "Stronger and more energetic hours after they take it." Nutri-Vita makes sense to them. Try Nutri-Vita for 30 days and see if it doesn't make sense to you, too. Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back of course.

NUTRI-VITA Timed Release Nutritional Supplement. A specially balanced, factory fresh formula of 12 vitamins, 9 minerals, and 21 nutrients including all 8 essential amino acids. Contains no sugar, no starch, no binders, no artificial colors, no artificial flavors.

ADULTS: 2 tablets morning and evening.
CHILDREN 6 to 12: 1 tablet morning and evening.

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YES. Nutri-Vita's round-the-clock system of vitamin-mineral-amino acid supplementation makes sense to me. I enclose \$10.00 for a 120-tablet bottle (a 30-day supply for adults, a 60-day supply for children) under the terms of my money-back guarantee. (Please add 35¢ postage and handling.)

Enclosed is \$ _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

☐ **SAVE MORE** and give the whole family Nutri-Vita's "nutritional supplementation." Take two bottles for only \$18.95. We pay postage.

NEWS FROM THE WRESTLING CAPITALS



ROCKY MOUNTAIN ACTION by Kirby Rodgers

THE PUEBLO COLORADO sports arena was filled with fans waiting to see Terry Funk confront Andre the Giant. Terry had reportedly requested this match, hoping to add to his greatness with a victory over a man with the international stature of Andre.

In the opening moments, it appeared Terry had made a bad miscalculation. As the thousands of fans excitedly watched, Andre dominated the action. Terry was unusually cautious for the first few minutes, as if trying to gauge how much of Andre's reputation was exaggerated. As far as Funk was concerned in the opening moments, the gargantuan grappler had earned every bit of his reputation.

Caution is not a natural way for the tempestuous Funk to wrestle. Soon he was taking the match to Andre. For 20 thrilling minutes, the match teetered back and forth between the two. Each would gain an advantage only to see it

be countered instantly.

It took all their professional intelligence not to become frustrated. Lesser wrestlers would have made mistakes as they became desperate, whereas Funk and Andre continued to grapple with cool heads, always searching for an opening.

Terry felt he found the opening when he caught Andre in a flying head



Terry Funk (above) met Andre the Giant (left) at the Pueblo, Colorado arena in an exciting confrontation. The match ended in a double disqualification, after an unforgettable 20 minute battle of two wrestling greats.

scissors. However, when Funk tried to repeat his success, Andre caught him in mid-air and both men tumbled over the ropes. Neither could get back in the ring in time and the referee was forced to disqualify both men and call the bout a draw.

It was a heartbreaking conclusion to an otherwise perfect match.

GEORGIA REPORT by T.G. Nathan

In what proved to be his last

successful title defense, Jack Brisco accepted the challenge of The Spoiler. Spoiler, accompanied by his interfering manager "Playboy" Gary Hart, lost no time in fouling Brisco as soon as the bell sounded. Again and again he kicked Brisco low.

Brisco finally recovered and hit Spoiler with a tremendous series of flying dropkicks. Spoiler ran from the ring for a few moments to have a strategy session with his manager.

Reentering the ring, Spoiler charged



The Spoiler once again used his famous clawhold, this time on Jack Brisco in his last match before losing the NWA belt.

at Jack and tripped him. Then he stomped Brisco several times, weakening him for his finishing hold—the claw! But as he was going to put it on Jack, the champion grabbed Spoiler's hand and in a fantastic battle of strength, Jack stopped Spoiler's feared weapon.

(Continued on page 60)



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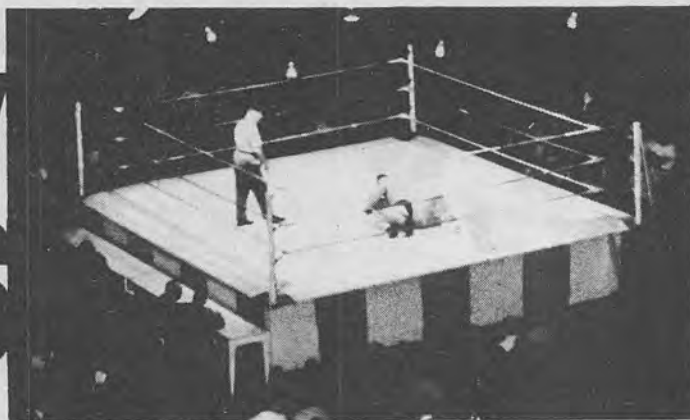
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I hope Andre the Giant gets a beating from Billy "Superstar" Graham!

As for all who thought they saw Billy "quake in fear," have your heads examined. Billy isn't afraid of anyone.

It's good to see "Superstar" back to his same "awful" stuff and not a good guy like most of his fans want him to be. I want to see more of the body beautiful in all of its splendor. Also, do another story of his tastes in women. A lot of us in the paradise of the Pacific would love to see him.

Those so-called sex symbols like Dino Bravo and Tony Garea, are nothing compared to Billy. You can also tell Jerry Lawler his nude photo can't equal a naked pose of Billy, which would cause your magazine to be censored!

RUBY MARTIN
Honolulu, Hawaii

FASCINATING STORY

I was transfixed by the story, "The Ancient Death Match Between Sheik and Tiger Jeet Singh" (THE WRESTLER/January 1976). Matches originating in foreign lands always fascinate me.

To learn eastern Indians have been having mud matches to the death for centuries was both shocking and startling. Knowing Singh participated in these matches makes watching him wrestle that much more exciting.

Thanks for a great story and some insight into a remarkable wrestler.

CLAUDIA CARLSON
Chicago, Illinois

INTERESTING BEGINNINGS

I think the best features in your magazine are "How I Broke into Professional Wrestling," appearing monthly in THE WRESTLER. I feel closer to the wrestlers after learning of their struggles making it to the top of this great profession.

Each month, this feature is the first



Billy "Superstar" Graham can be bloodied by and bloody Crusher (above) yet remain a favorite mat star. Gordman and Goliath (below) and their changing of style remains a question mark to many veteran mat observers.



part of the magazine I read. It makes the other parts so much more interesting when you know what it takes to become a professional wrestler.

Thanks for a great feature in a great magazine. Keep up the excellent work.

CORNELL BROWN
Boston, Massachusetts

GOOD IDEA

I hope Louis Tillet reads "Warning—Don't Cheer for Gordman and Goliath Yet" (THE WRESTLER/January 1976) many times. It's got a message he'd better lean quick!

How can a supposedly smart guy like Tillet trust known rats like Gordman and Goliath. A lot of my friends say those two have turned over a new leaf. I tell them and I'd tell Louis, "Don't you believe it!"

Those two will turn on Louis at the very first chance!

ABNER SMITH
Los Angeles, California

BEAUTIFUL BATTLER

I must have read "Early Dawn Shines in the West" at least five times. She has to be the most exciting girl

(Continued on page 48)

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What's more, the Yawara defense weapon is perfectly legal. You need no permit to carry it, there are no laws against it.

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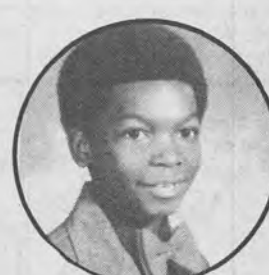
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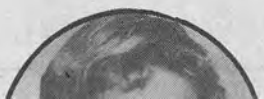
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THE BLOODY RETURN OF THE SHEIK

After years of brutal punishment, Sheik was forced into the hospital because of extensive internal injuries. His comeback proved he may now be more dangerous than ever!

PHOTOS BY TONY LANZA

AS THE SHEIK entered the arena, the fans became strangely quiet. Though Sheik is not a fan favorite—in fact, most despise the fiery grappler—the crowd had to respect a man trying to make a comeback despite seemingly insurmountable odds.

Only a few weeks before, Sheik lay flat on his back in a hospital bed, weakened by the effects of a serious sensitive operation needed to correct numerous internal injuries. His team of physicians, culled from the best specialists in North America, was unsure whether Sheik could survive the surgery.

But Sheik surprised the doctors; he made a remarkably quick recovery from the operation. Soon he was as strong as before with only a large bandage over his stomach as a reminder of his serious surgery. His recuperative powers were so great he was ready to resume his career, only a few weeks after the operation!

When the doctors gave him a clean bill of health, Sheik immediately scheduled a comeback match. It was finally decided he would wrestle Johnny Rougeau.

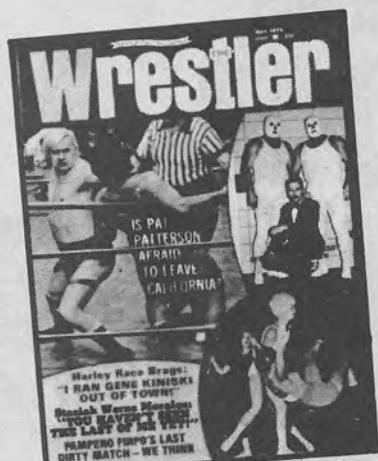
On the night of the bout, Sheik's doctors sat nervously in the audience, worrying more about their patient's still not-quite-healed surgery scars than the outcome of the match. Firemen stood closely by in case Sheik tried any of his flame-throwing tactics. Fans, who had heard only recently of the sensitive operation, waited apprehensively for the wrestler to appear. When he finally made his entrance he looked as good as ever, except for the large white bandage taped to his midsection.

As soon as the bell sounded, Sheik rushed toward his opponent. But Rougeau was determined not to let a man who sat on death's doorstep a few weeks before better him in this match. He sidestepped the attack, and Sheik was sent sprawling to the canvas.

Sheik quickly regained his

(Continued on page 46)

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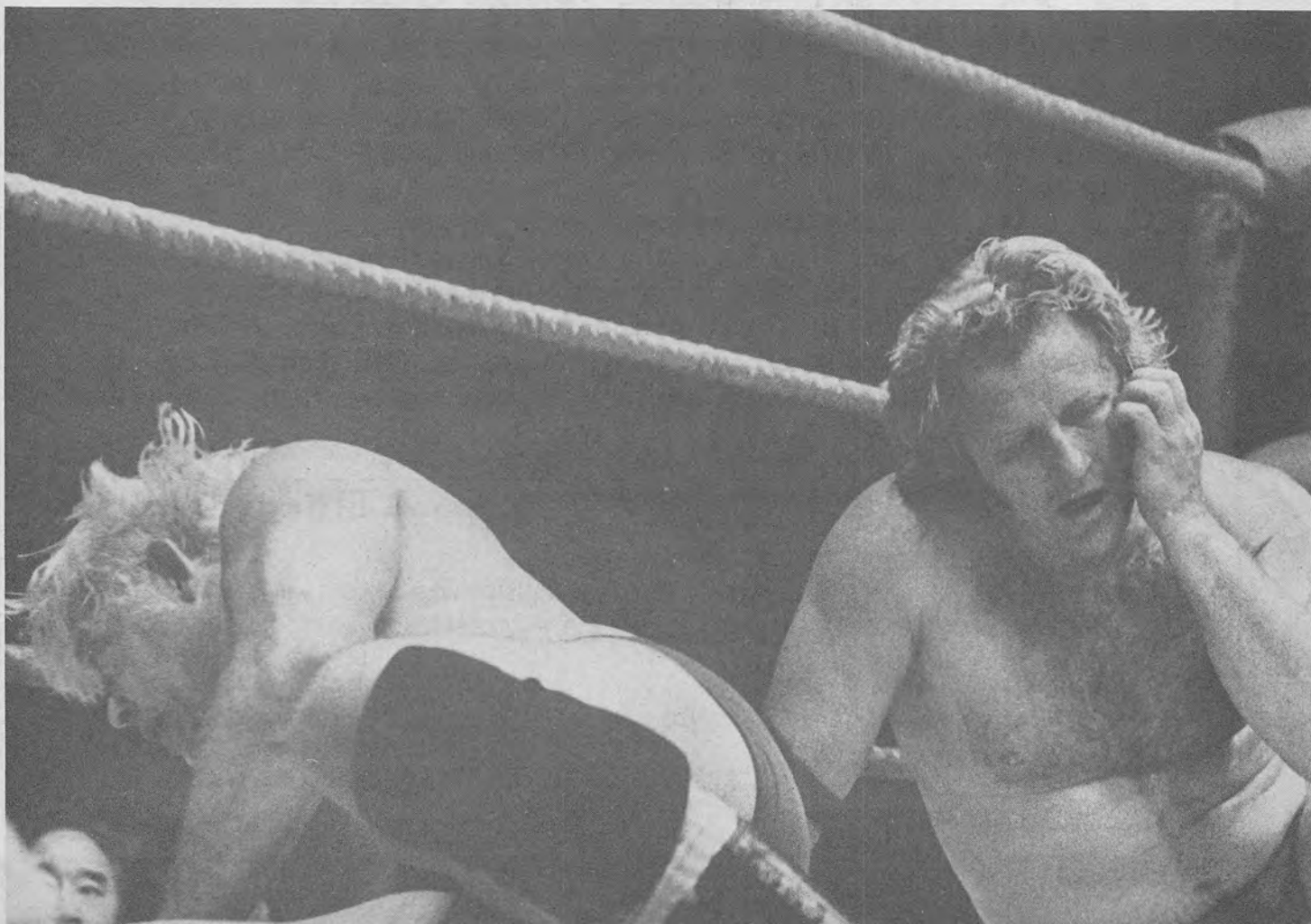
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The tag team of Nick Bockwinkel and Ray Stevens has already earned a prominent chapter in wrestling history. Will the ending be one of tragedy and blood?

IS IT ALL OVER FOR BOCKWINKLE AND STEVENS?





The cruel perfection which was Bockwinkle and Stevens seems to be gone as Bruiser smashes Ray to the canvas (above) and has Nick squirming in agony (right) in a recent match. The two men shared the agony (below) but did little else together. The famed coordination of their tag team seems to be a thing of the past—or is it just a short lapse before they come back more savage than ever before?



IN ANY WRESTLING arena in the world, the main topic of conversation is the future of Nick Bockwinkle and Ray Stevens as a tag team. The last few months have seen the pair fail to execute the moves which made them such a formidable combination. Reasons for this strange occurrence are unknown, although there are plenty of theories.

Many wrestling experts believe this is more than a momentary lapse in the pair's ruthless efficiency. They see the team deteriorating more and more until a break is inevitable. They point to wrestling history to prove no team has made it through a great collapse and stayed together to rebuild the combination.

There are a few, however, who believe Bockwinkle and Stevens are like no other team in history and have to be judged on their individual merits. The pair has overcome problems before and will do so again.

"Though I have no love for either guy," Bruiser, who has often wrestled against them, says, "I can't imagine they'd split up. I don't think fans can appreciate how perfectly these guys work together. Their instincts seem to blend together. It's absolutely

uncanny. Unless you wrestle them, you just can't understand how well they work together. I've known wrestlers who've watched the two many times, but when they finally wrestle Nick and Ray, they're stunned.

"No two guys who work that well together, and who have done so for such a long time, can afford to split up. If they do, it will only be after years of trying to salvage the partnership."

Crusher, who has teamed with Bruiser against Nick and Ray, isn't quite sure what the future holds for Bockwinkle and Stevens.

"Something's lost between them," Crusher contends, "and I don't know if they can get it back. Two months ago I'd have said they'd never split. Today I'm not so sure.

"I can't imagine them staying together if they can't get back to the level they were once at. It must be incredibly miserable for them now. Even their many illegal tactics aren't working well. You can see the confusion on their faces. They don't know what's wrong and they sure don't like it.

"I wouldn't be surprised if it's pretty stormy between the two these days.

(Continued on page 52)

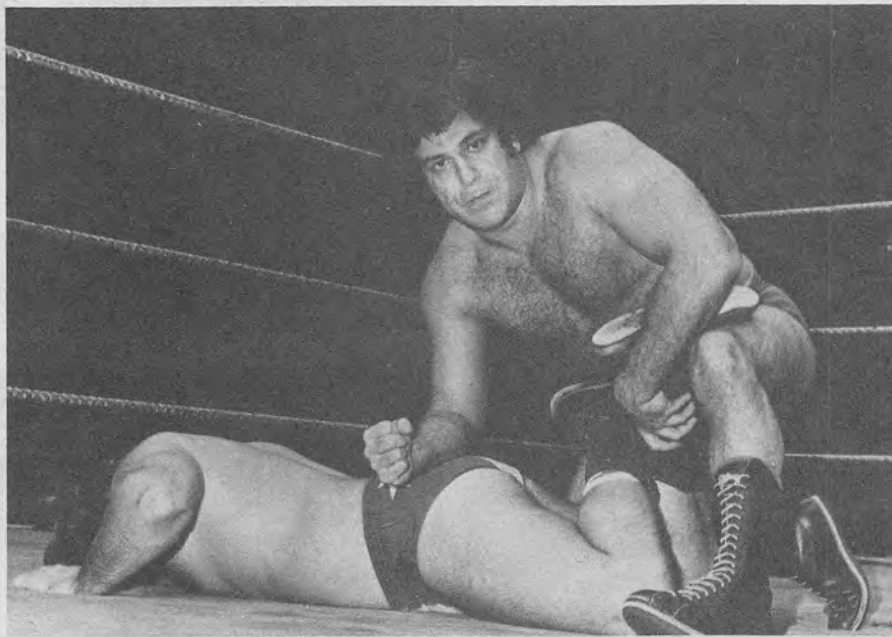
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PHOTOS BY BILL APTER



PETE SANCHEZ VS KEVIN SULLIVAN

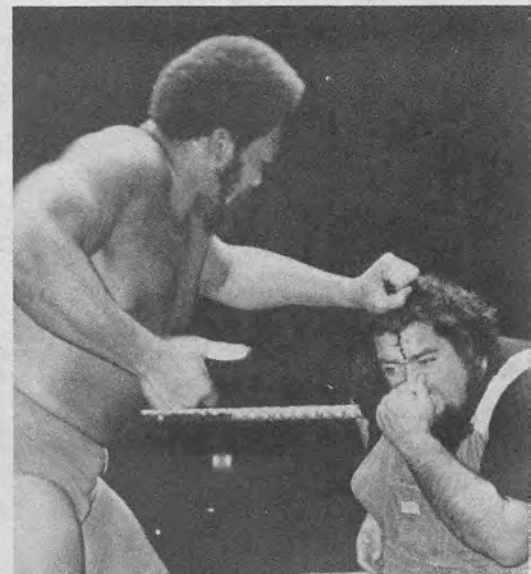


Kevin Sullivan proves he can take punishment as he refuses to submit to Pete Sanchez's leglock (left). Minutes later it is Pete in trouble as Kevin tries to ride his opponent. The match went to a 15:00 draw.

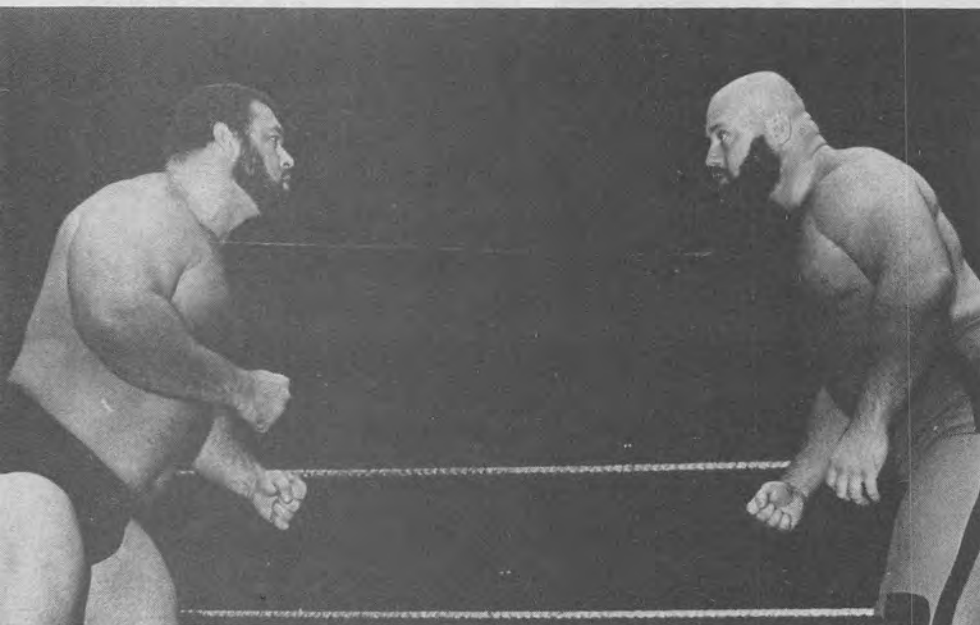
HAYSTACKS CALHOUN VS ERNIE LADD



Ernie Ladd punches (left) and kicks (above) and gouges (below) in his brutal assault on the popular Haystacks Calhoun. The bout ended when Calhoun was thrown on outside of ring.



IVAN PUTSKI vs BUGSY MC GRAW



Ivan Putski and Buggy McGraw, two of the most powerful men in professional wrestling, square off against each other (above). In the opening minutes, McGraw mounts a crushing offensive which has Ivan crumpling to the canvas (above right). After a furious 12:09, the Polish mat star rallies to upset his opponent (right).

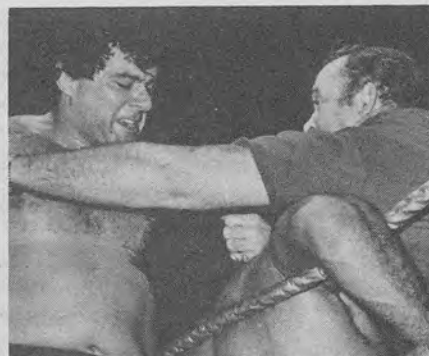
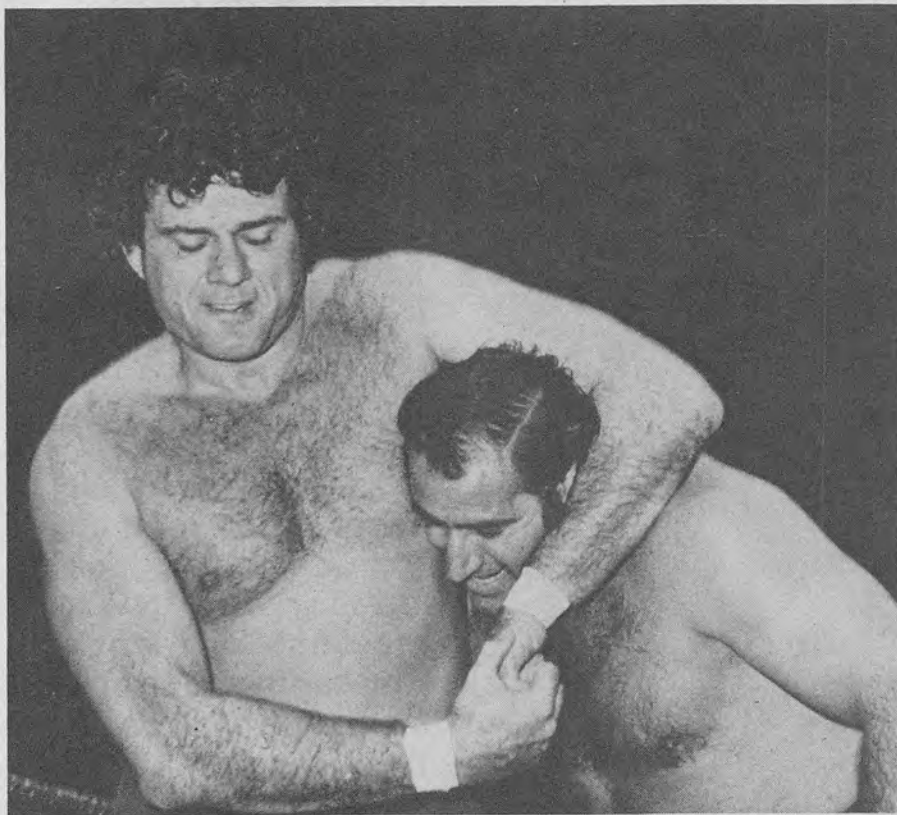
BLACKJACKS vs PARISI & CERDAN



The popular tag team of Tony Parisi and Louis Cerdan battled the hated Blackjacks in the final bout of the evening. After Tony and Louis won the first fall, the 11 p.m. curfew bell rang 4:37 into fall number two. Parisi and Cerdan had to be content with a draw against the Blackjacks.



SPIROS ARION VS DOMINIC DENUCCI



For a little more than 10 tense minutes, Spiros Arion and his foe, Dominic DeNucci, trade punishing maneuvers (right and below) before Arion is rightly disqualified for pounding Dom outside the ring ropes (above).

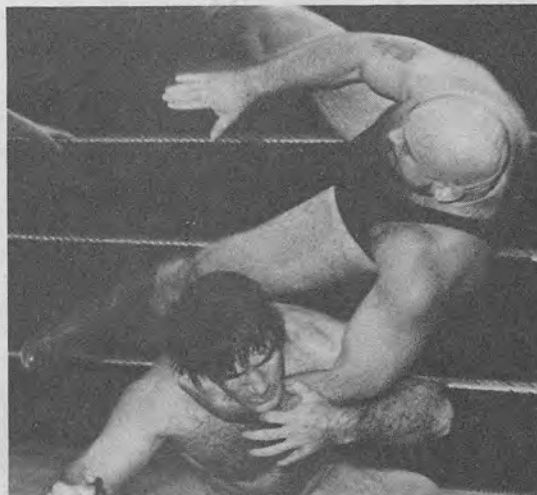


WWWF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

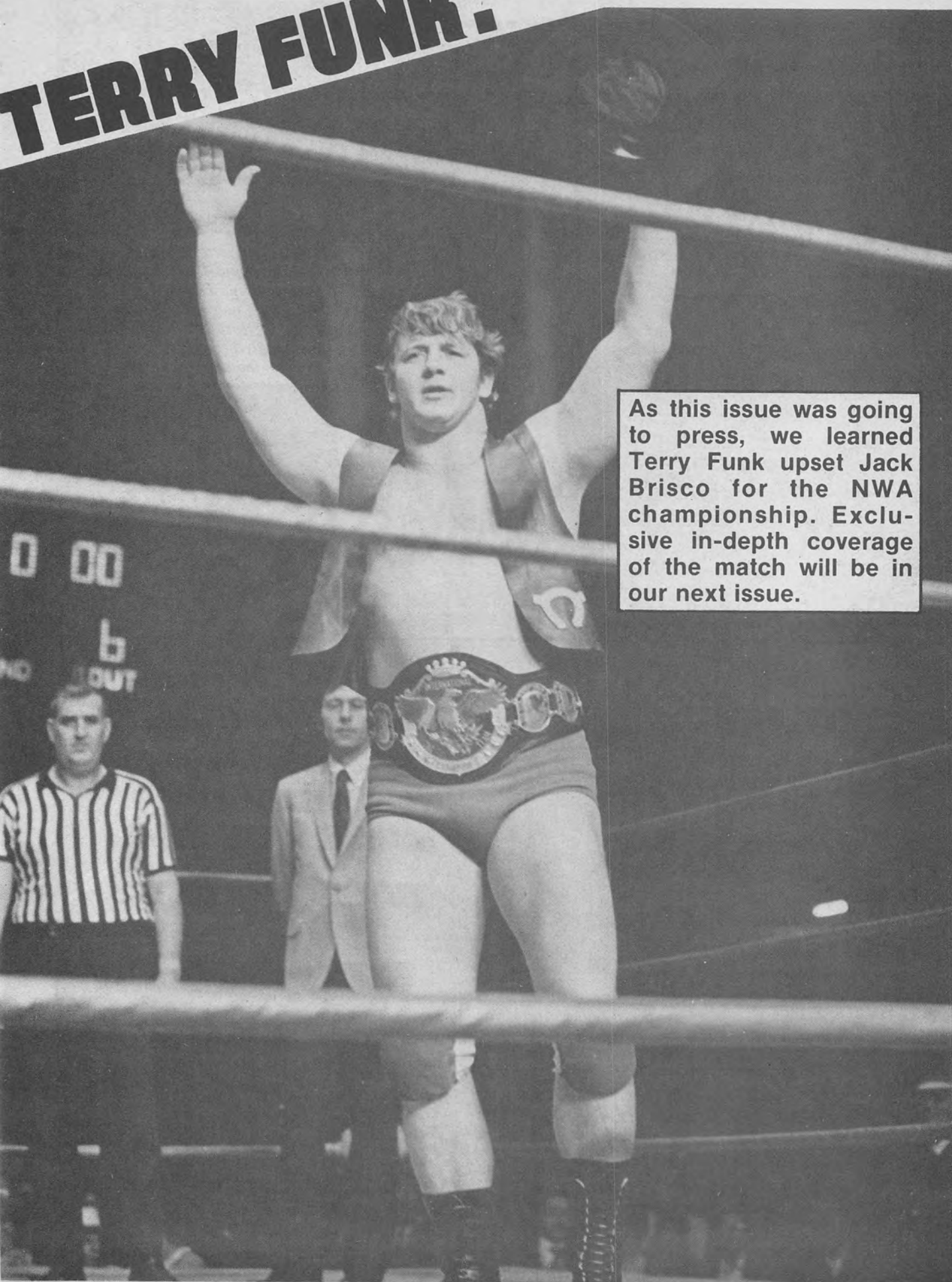
BRUNO SAMMARTINO VS IVAN KOLOFF



For a phenomenal 23:27, Bruno Sammartino waged war against Ivan Koloff in the evening's main event. After a furious battle within the ropes, the action spilled to the floor outside. As Bruno tried to get back in the ring, Koloff grabbed a chair and smashed it across Bruno's back. Koloff was immediately disqualified for this foul action. It shows what lengths Koloff thinks he must go to in his quest to defeat Sammartino.



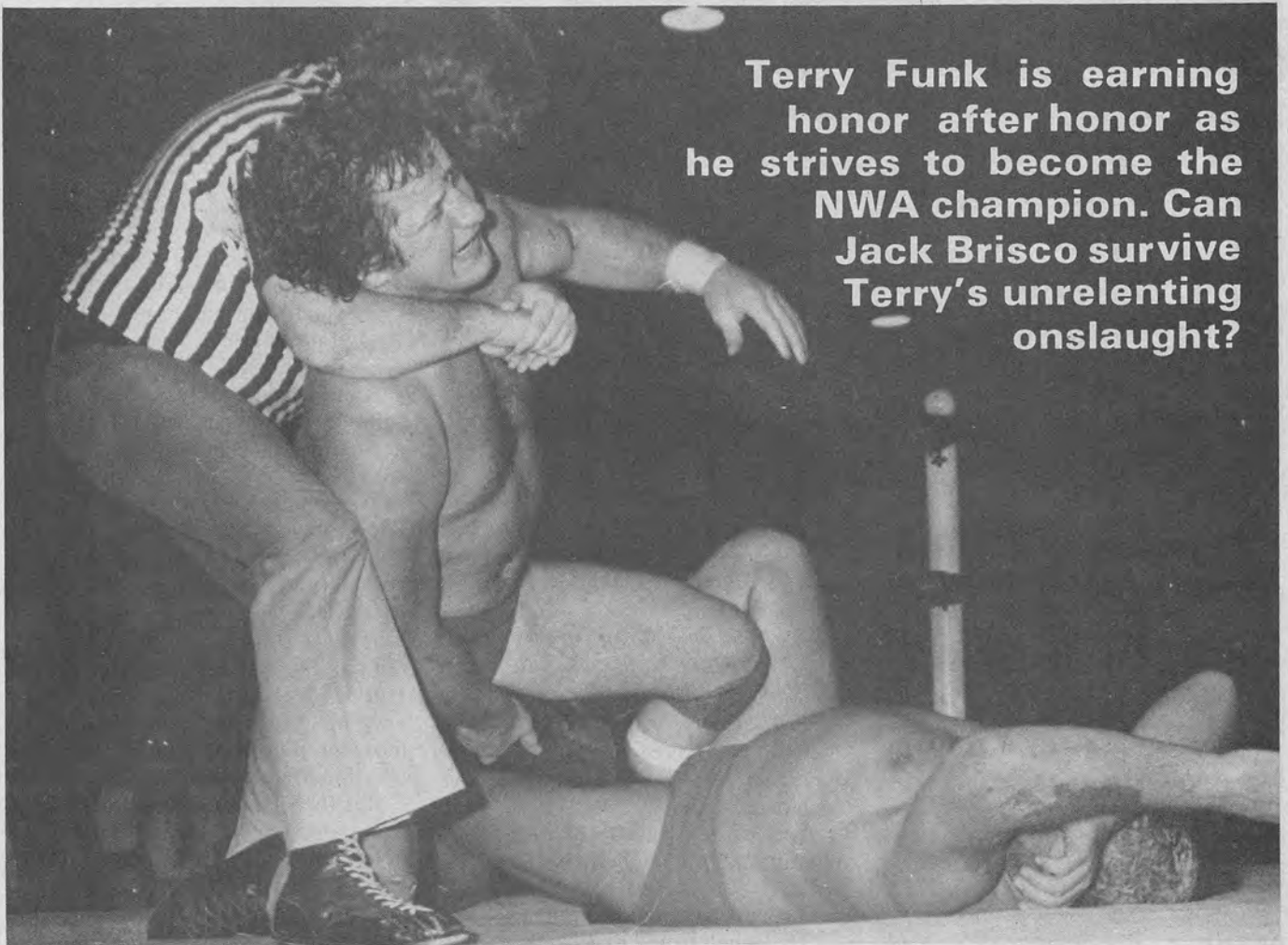
TERRY FUNK:



As this issue was going to press, we learned Terry Funk upset Jack Brisco for the NWA championship. Exclusive in-depth coverage of the match will be in our next issue.

RIDIN' HIGH ON THE CHAMPIONSHIP EXPRESS

PHOTOS BY BILL BEACH



Terry Funk is earning honor after honor as he strives to become the NWA champion. Can Jack Brisco survive Terry's unrelenting onslaught?

MORE THAN ANYTHING else, Terry Funk wants to possess the championship belt of the NWA. He has seen it worn around the waist of another member of his family—brother Dory Funk Jr.—and now Terry wants to bring it back home to his clan. He wants the title. His family honor demands it.

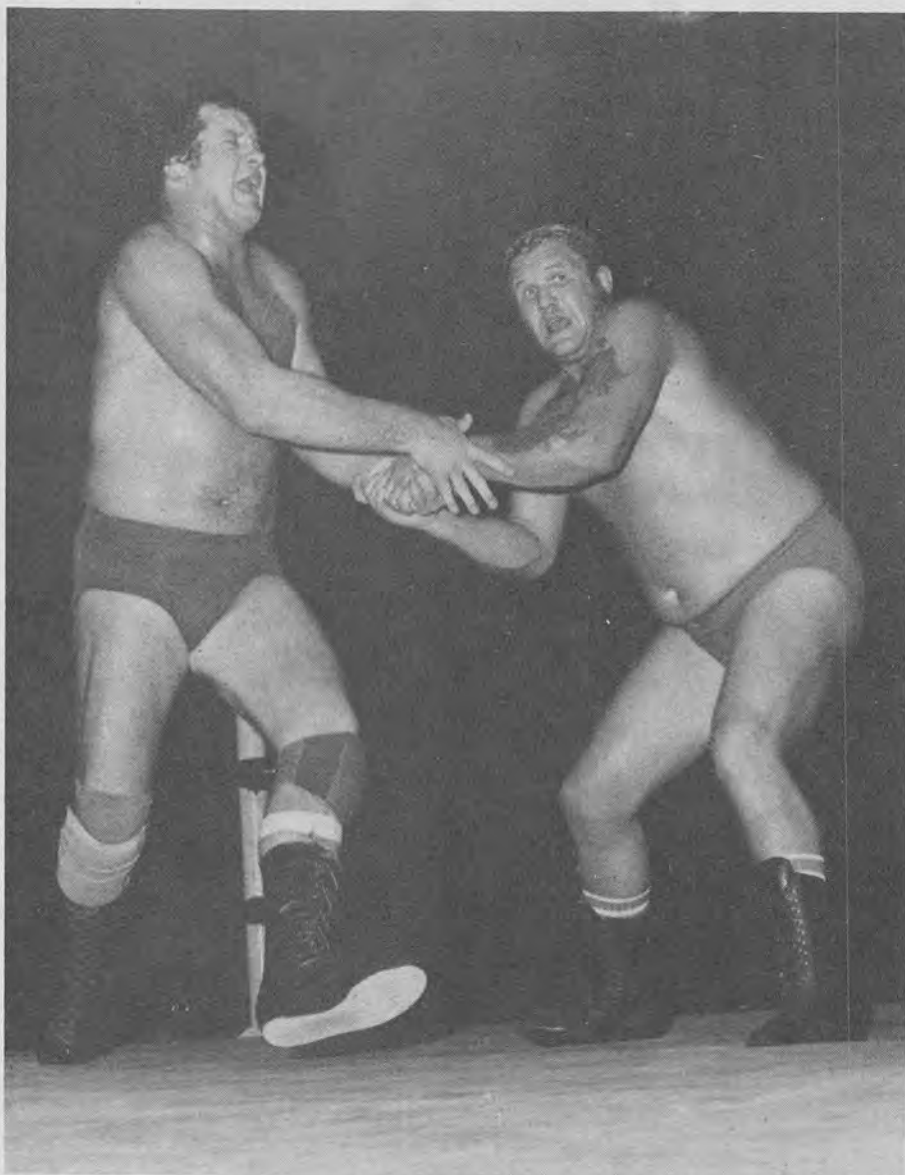
Though many men crave a championship, few take the action necessary to further their cause.

Terry Funk is not like most men. He can practically feel the belt around his waist. He can almost hear the cheers of the fans proclaiming him champion. He can sense himself coming nearer to a match against Jack Brisco for the title. And when the time comes for Terry to again do battle with Brisco, he feels he will emerge victorious. If he can hold his famous temper in check.

A change has come over Terry. He seems to be training harder than he

ever did before. He carefully checks his diet, making sure only the most nutritious foods are consumed. He looks leaner and stronger than he has ever looked. He is on his way to a championship.

In recent months, Terry has faced and beaten several men who stood in the way of his championship. So it came as no surprise when a match between Terry Funk and Harley Race was announced. Many who have been



Harley Race hurls Terry across the ring (left) and into the ropes. This was considered a low point in the match for Funk. However, Terry was able to come back and sufficiently better his opponent. The next step for Terry is the NWA championship.

Race. I'm on my way to the championship.

"Now I know what Race is like. I know he will try to provoke me and try to make me lose my temper. But he will not succeed. I will prove tonight I am the better wrestler. I will prove tonight I deserve to be the champion!"

In the other dressing room Harley Race was waiting calmly for the match to begin. "I'm not worried about this match," Harley told reporters. "I know the weaknesses plaguing Terry Funk and I know how to exploit them. He may be good, but he is not a champion."

The two men entered the arena and climbed into the ring. The minute they were inside, Race started hurling verbal slings at Terry. Funk stood calmly in his corner, desperately trying to ignore Harley's loud voice. But observers could see him quietly seething inside; only a great deal of self-control was stopping Terry from attacking Race before the bell even sounded.

When both grapplers signaled their readiness to the referee, the bell sounded to begin the match. Funk rushed toward Race, slamming Harley to the canvas. The anger unleashed, Terry was looking more like a wild animal than a wrestler. He trapped Harley with a reverse neck lock, keeping him off balance. For a moment it looked like Harley Race was finished before he had even begun.

But then Harley showed the mettle from which he is made. He broke the hold Funk had on him and sprang to his feet. He grabbed Terry, picked him up, and slammed his body to the canvas. Funk was momentarily dazed. Race picked his opponent off the mat and again bodyslammed him, this time throwing Terry through the middle rope and onto the floor of the arena!

Terry picked himself up from off the concrete. Using the ringpost as a support, Funk tried to climb back in over the ropes, but Harley would not allow his opponent back in.

Finally, Funk was able to get back inside despite Race's efforts. But

(Continued on page 54)



Terry almost rips the head off of his opponent (left), while trying to send former NWA title holder Race flying across the ring. Terry wants to bring the title back to the Funk family.

watching Terry's career knew he would have to defeat Race if he hoped to have a chance at the NWA title.

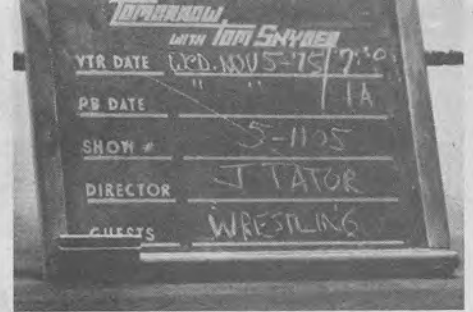
And Harley Race, a former NWA champion, is a man to be reckoned with.

Harley Race is the man who had taken the belt from Dory Funk Jr, only to have it taken from him by Jack Brisco. If Terry wanted the championship back in the family, he would have to settle the clan's score with Race. It was a matter of honor.

The night of the Race-Funk match, tension filled both dressing rooms as the two mighty wrestlers prepared for the forthcoming battle.

"I have to beat this guy," said Terry. "I have waited too long and worked too hard to be stopped by Harley

PHOTOS BY GEORGE NAPOLITANO



THE WRESTLERS VISIT THE TOMORROW SHOW



THE TELEVISION LIGHTS glared upon Tom Snyder, host of NBC's *Tomorrow Show*, and Vince McMahon Jr., wrestling commentator. A few seconds later, the nationwide late-night TV show began its intensive examination of professional wrestling today.

Vince began the show by reciting facts and figures revealing how extensive and profitable professional wrestling has become. After the audience learned some background on the business aspect, it was time to concentrate on the sport itself.

To discuss the life and craft of a professional wrestler, Bruno Sammartino agreed to make one of his rare appearances on national television. The WWF champion discussed his career and told of the many hardships a man must endure to reach the top of this most violent profession. Bruno was joined in the discussion by Gorilla Monsoon. Then came the demonstration.

In a makeshift ring, Bruno sparred with Frank Monte while Monsoon explained in detail what was

(Continued on page 64)



Late night television viewers were treated to an inside look at wrestling on The Tomorrow Show. For those who may have missed it, here's what happened

"PUT A PAIR OF GLOVES ON HIS FEET, TOO!"

SWEAT POURED DOWN Bob Armstrong's face and body as he pounded his fists into the punching bag. The loud thuds resounded throughout the gymnasium. This was no ordinary workout for the star grappler; he was preparing for possibly the most dangerous match of his career.

Armstrong had been challenged by the Mongolian Stomper to a boxing match. With Stomper involved in the battle, it would be the dirtiest boxing match in history. A man had to be in excellent condition to withstand the expected Stomper onslaught.

"The reason he wants this match," Armstrong believed a week before the confrontation, "is to nullify my nerveholds. You can't use your fingers if they're covered by gloves. Stomper feels the slight advantage my nerveholds give me accounts for my victories over him. Challenging me to a boxing match is just his way of being clever.

"I accepted the challenge because I have faith in my boxing ability. I had a few amateur bouts and I know what I'm doing in the ring. My fists are a lot more dangerous than my nerveholds. Stomper is going to find that out—much to his sorrow!"



A left hook by Armstrong has Mongolian Stomper reeling from pain. It is no wonder Stomper decided his hands weren't going to be enough against Armstrong!

Stomper had another explanation for challenging Armstrong.

"I'm sick and tired of Armstrong punching me!" Stomper said through his interpreter, Bearcat Wright. "Instead of wrestling, this clown uses his fists. It's more than a man like me, a scientific wrestler, can stand.

"So, instead of trying to wrestle against this animal, I've decided to challenge him to a boxing match. At least this way we'll be on equal terms.

"I happen to be a great boxer. If wrestling wasn't my first love, I'd be heavyweight boxing champion of the world today. With my power and my agility, I can punch with the best of them. Though I would much rather wrestle, I'll do anything to get Armstrong.

"After the bout, I'll be known as the man who pounded Bob Armstrong into oblivion. And I'm going to relish every moment of it!"

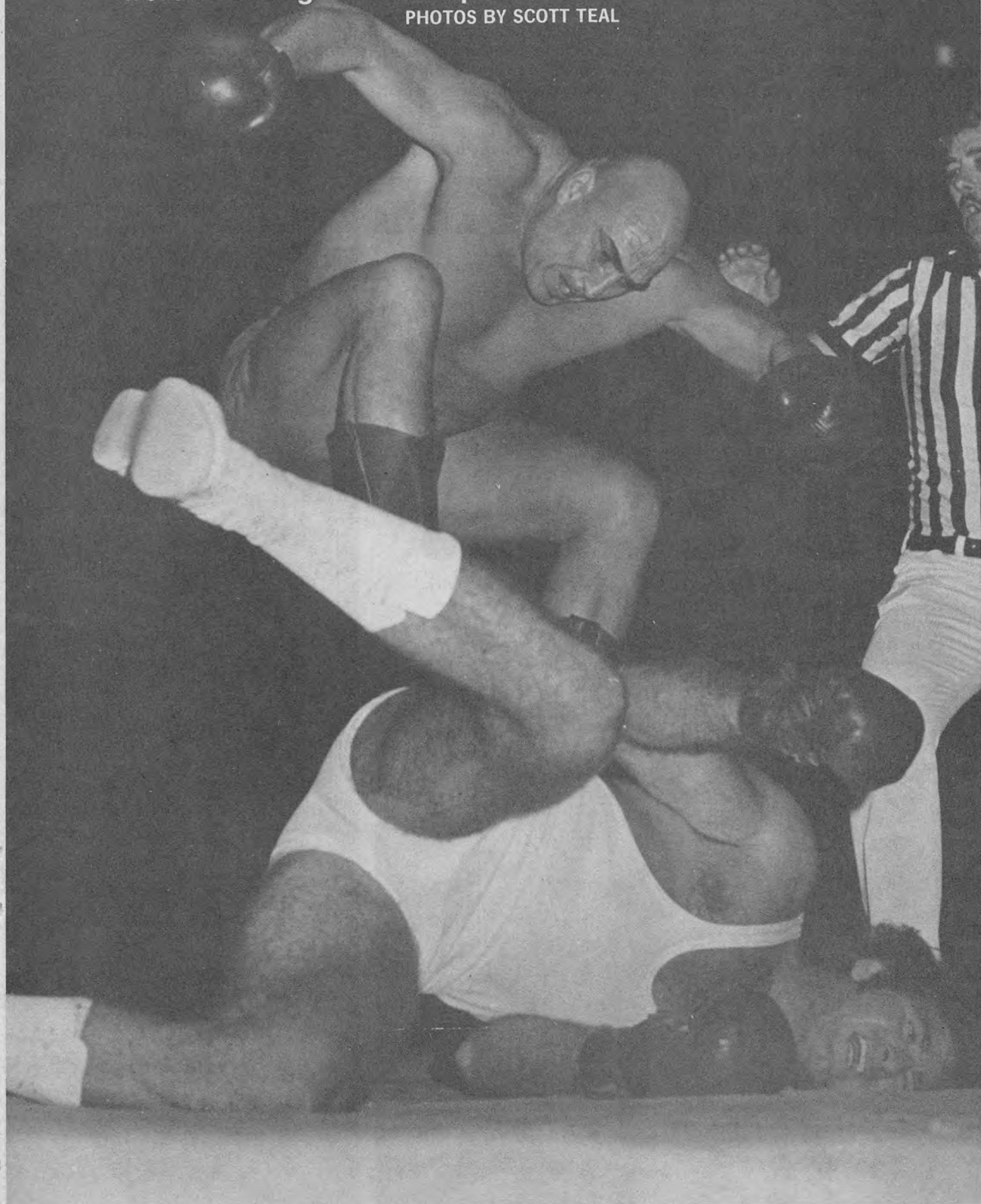
The night of the match, both men entered the arena with quiet determination. At Stomper's side was manager Wright. Seconding Armstrong was the popular Pepper Gomez. Bob glared at his opponent's corner. In past matches, he'd had plenty of reason to hate the pair. Gomez also glanced in the corner; he had the difficult task of insuring Wright did not interfere during the bout.

When the bell rang, the two men cautiously approached each other. Armstrong flicked a few jabs in Stomper's face, finding the distance

(Continued on page 56)

Mongolian Stomper and Bob Armstrong had a wild and wooly boxing match. During the brawl, Bob discovered two gloves weren't enough for Stomper!

PHOTOS BY SCOTT TEAL



TO THE WINNER would go \$10,000. To the 17 other men would go nothing but dreams of winning next year. And that is why the Texas battle royal is such an incredibly exciting event.

This year, a man had two chances to stay alive in the contest. To be disqualified, a grappler would need to be hurled from the first ring into another ring. Then he would have to be thrown over the ropes and out of the brawl. Wrestlers from all over

the world traveled at their own expense to participate in this wild combat.

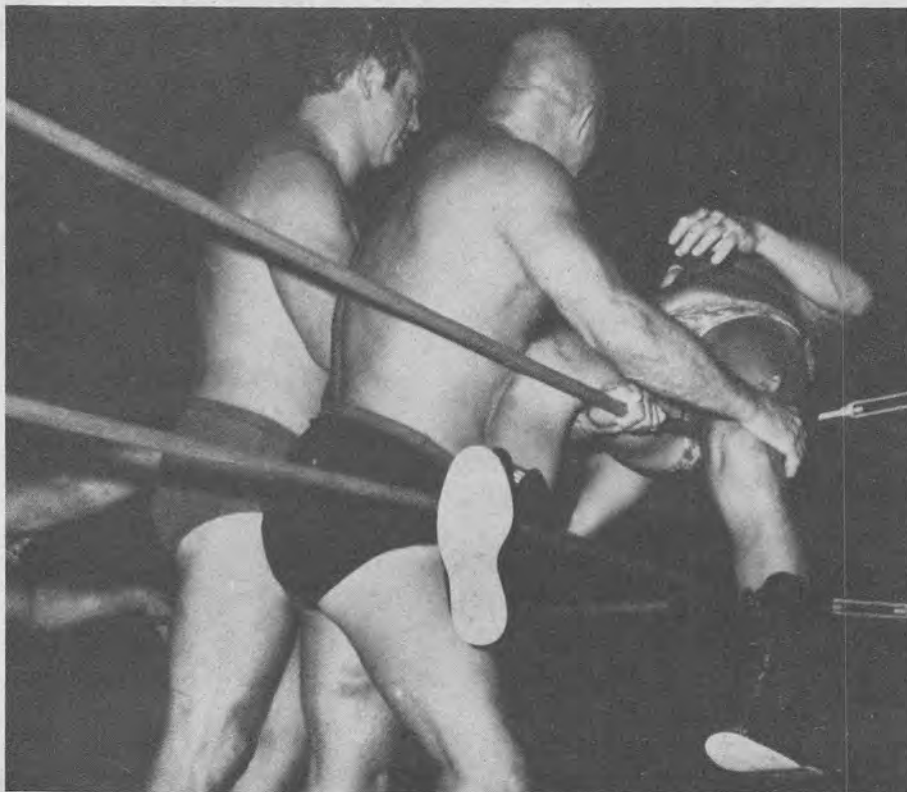
The evening of the match, the dressing rooms were filled yet strangely silent. Though many of the men were long standing friends, they knew each athlete would be on his own once the bell sounded. If it came down to a contest between you and your brother, as it might be the case with Dory Jr. and Terry Funk, you would have to do your

damndest to beat your brother. When friends realize they have to become enemies, it tends to cut down on the conversation.

Each wrestler was introduced to the crowd as he climbed through the ropes: "Alex Perez!" "Ray Candy!" "Interns #1&2!" "Pat O'Connor!" "Scott Casey!" "Ricky Romero!" "The Lawman!" "Ray Stevens!" "Terry Funk!" "Dory Funk Jr.!" "Gordon Nelson!" "Angelo Poffo!" "Darro Romero!" "Hurricane Hernandez!" "Killer Brooks!" "Bob Jagers!" "Red Bastien!" The names were greeted with cheers or boos. The wrestlers

BATTLE ROYAL RASSLIN' TEXAS STYLE!

Wrestlers gang up on a helpless victim to throw him from the first ring into the second (right). In the second ring, they use the same tactics to hurl a participant to the concrete and out of the competition (below). However, these alliances are forgotten as soon as the common victim is removed from this wild battle royal.



didn't care; only the impending match was important.

Studying the faces of the wrestlers before the bell was almost as interesting as the match itself. Some men's faces were totally blank, not displaying any sign of emotion. Others attempted to look mean, hoping to scare the more impressionable of their opponents. A few could not hide the tension from their faces; after all, \$10,000 could make anybody nervous.

Finally, the bell sounded and the brawl was underway. For the first few minutes, the ring resembled a pinball machine gone berserk. Bodies bounced and pounded into each other with terrifying force. Still, no man was eliminated, although many would feel the pain of these first encounters for weeks to come.

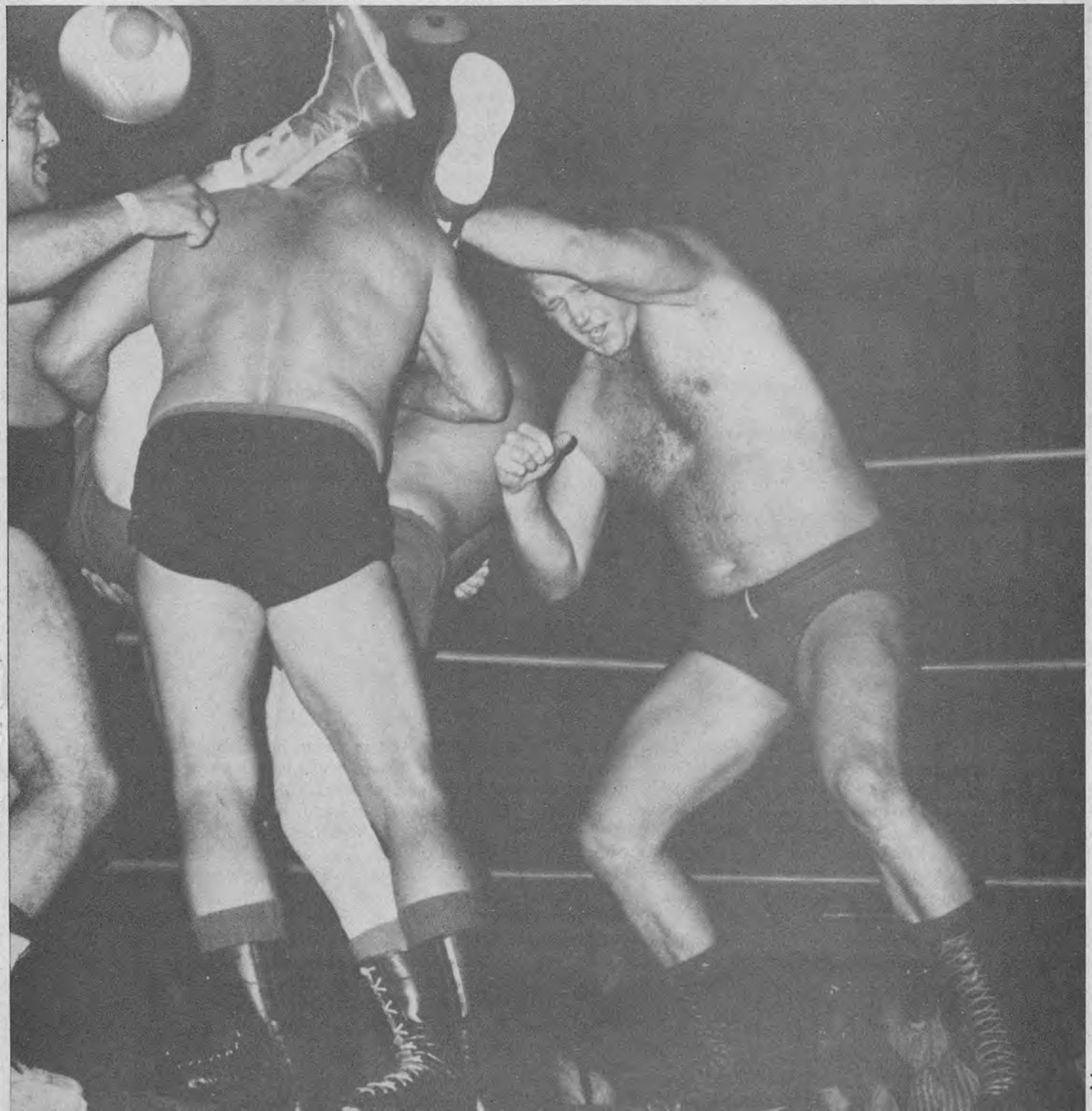
Then, one by one, men began to be hurled into the second ring. Alliances were forged and broken

instantly. No man could trust his ally after their victim was removed. The only true allegiance was to the winner's prize.

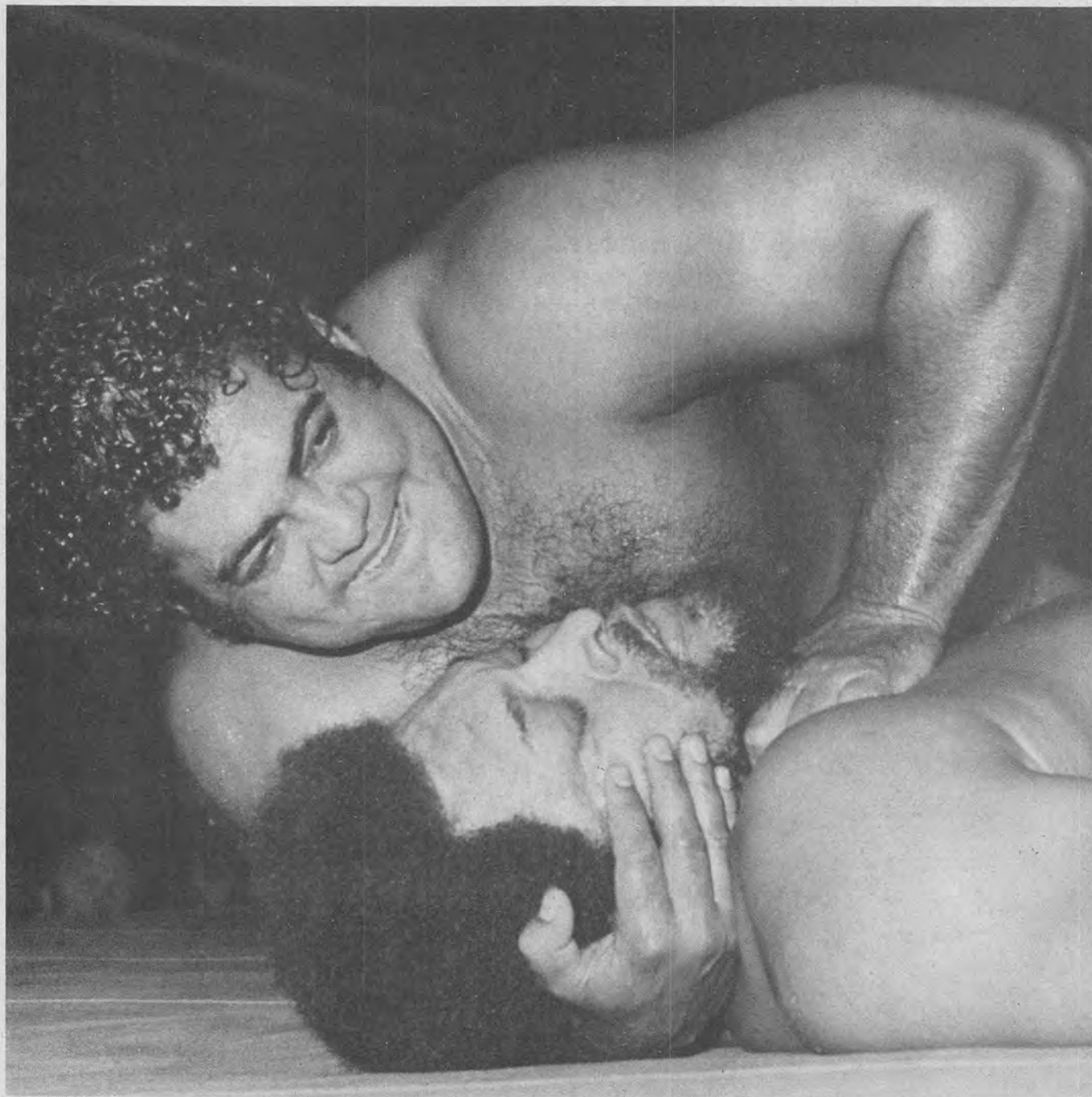
Soon both rings contained wild and wooly action. The men in the first ring were more reckless, willing to take a chance for success. In the second ring, they were more cruel; blood began to appear on the faces of some. For \$10,000, no one really cared what the other guy had to suffer. *(Continued on page 50)*

When you have 18 wrestlers, two rings, and put them in a Texas arena, you can count on all hell breaking loose!

PHOTOS BY BILL BEACH



PEDRO'S CRUCIAL TASK:



IT HAS NOT been easy for Pedro Morales since he lost the WWWF title a few years back. He has tried desperately to get a title match against current champion Bruno Sammartino, but so far, Pedro's efforts have been to no avail.

A few months ago, Pedro decided to go west and try his skills on the California wrestling scene. He figured if he could rebuild his reputation and career in the Golden State, eastern promoters would have to give him a title match against Bruno.

But things have not been as good as

Pedro had hoped they would be during his west coast tour. Often he would encounter opponents using illegal tactics. Morales has had to fight fire with fire. Only when he was matched with scientific wrestlers could Pedro fully display his skills.

Slowly, Pedro became more and more depressed over what was happening to his career. He went west to rebuild his fame, but instead was floundering.

Then it was announced he would battle Ernie Ladd.

Pedro realized his match against

Ernie would be his biggest test. If he could beat Ladd, he would be able to continue on his comeback trail. But if Ernie Ladd, a wrestler whose tactics are sometimes questionable at best, were to somehow beat Morales, Pedro's comeback would be over, his career called to a halt.

If Ernie Ladd beat him, Pedro Morales would be forced to retire!

The Pedro Morales walking into the dressing room that night was one of the most determined wrestlers ever to enter an arena.

Before the match started, Morales

DEFEAT ERNIE LADD... OR RETIRE!

PHOTOS BY THEO EHRET

The last few months have been the most important in the career of Pedro Morales. If he was to regain his former glory, he had to earn a victory over Ernie Ladd. Failing to do that would mean Pedro would have to leave wrestling forever!



Right: A nervous Pedro enters the arena, only too aware of what he must do in this most important of matches. Below right: Pedro is stunned and Ladd wades in to mount his attack early in the battle.



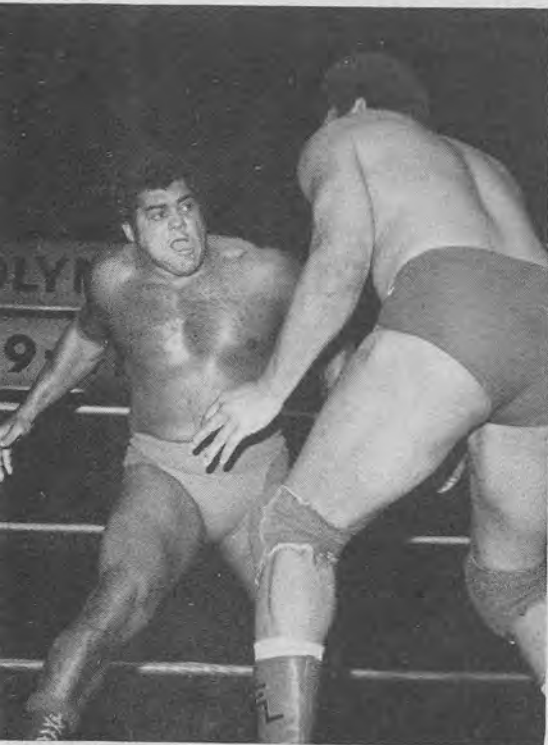
Right: Ladd is unconscious from the desperate and illegal choke he suffered at the hands of the enraged Pedro Morales.

sat tensely in his dressing room, obviously worried about the upcoming encounter with Ladd. "I know I can beat Ernie Ladd," Pedro explained. "It is just I have never had so much riding on a match before. I have never had to stake my entire career on the outcome of just one match against one man. The prospect is frightening.

"However, if those are the circumstances I must face, I will face them with courage. I will win this match tonight! I am determined to make this comeback successful.

"It might seem hard to understand





Above: Wild-eyed, Pedro charges at Ladd, determined to finish off the huge grappler. Right: Trapped in a corner, Ladd can't escape the raging wrath and brutal kicks of Morales, who is totally beyond any control!

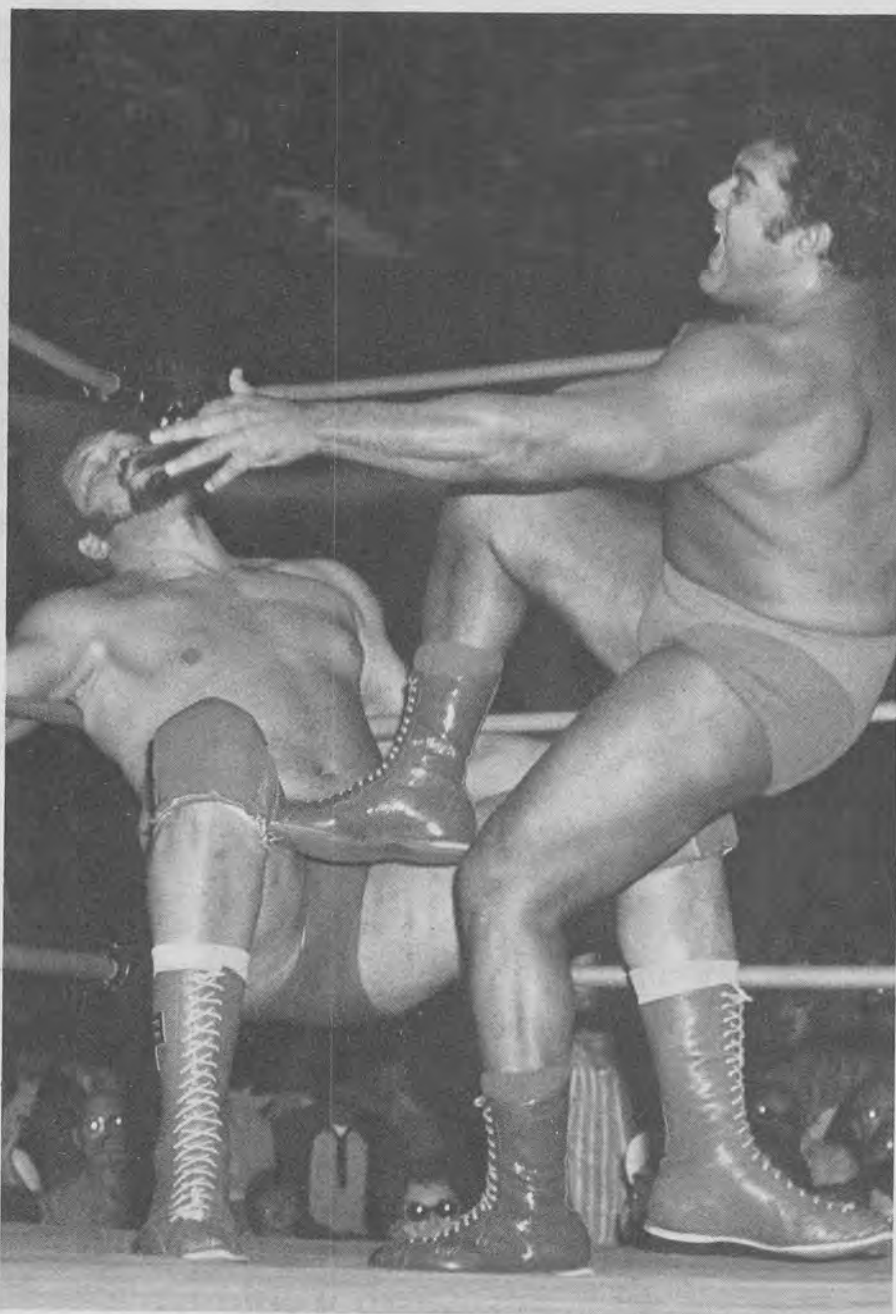
why I push myself this way. Sometimes I have trouble understanding the motivation myself. All I know is I have to win back my title. And the only way I know how to accomplish my goal is to rebuild my reputation in California. If I am successful enough, eastern promoters will have no choice but to give me a title match against Sammartino. And that is what this whole struggle is all about—I want to have my title back. It is that simple.

"Therefore, I will beat Ernie Ladd tonight. I have no other choice. For if I go down to defeat, I will be forced to retire. That is something I don't want."

Pedro walked out of the dressing room and into the arena. The fans cheered loudly for Morales as he strutted down the aisle and climbed through the ropes. Ernie Ladd was already there, waiting.

As soon as both grapplers were ready, the bell sounded. The two wrestlers slowly approached each other, looking for a weak spot in the other to attack. For a few seconds the two just stood staring at one another. But looks can be deceiving—both men were poising themselves for a sudden attack on the other.

Ladd was the first to spring into action. With a sudden fury Ernie



grabbed Morales and wrestled him to the canvas. Then Ladd grabbed Pedro's hand and put an armlock on his opponent. Somehow Morales was able to struggle free and scramble to his feet.

Now it was Pedro's turn to attack. He charged full force at Ladd, sending the grappler sprawling to the mat, flat on his back. Morales then pounded on his fallen foe, hoping to end the match quickly. Pedro knew what news of an instant victory over Ladd would mean to his career.

Ladd, however, used his gargantuan size to full advantage and threw Pedro off him. Both men sprang to their feet and stared at each other. The first confrontation had been rough on both men. Each had learned from the experience.

What followed was a display of veteran wrestling cunning on the part of both men. Using their years of experience, the two men cautiously probed for openings. Each knew that a risk at this stage could mean defeat. It was a fascinating exhibition of grappling subtlety.

Then it exploded. Ladd slammed a forearm smash to Pedro's head. Morales stumbled backward as Ladd followed with a kick to Pedro's belly. Pedro fell in the corner, dazed and bruised.

Ladd rushed at his foe, only to have Pedro miraculously sidestep at the last minute. Ernie rushed toward the turnbuckle, entangling himself in the corner ropes.

This was Pedro's turn to get revenge. He smashed and kicked Ernie. When

Left: Ladd doubles over from a forearm smash to the belly. Desperate, Pedro is more interested in a victory than displaying his scientific skills in this match! Below: After the confrontation, Pedro glares back at his foe and at the field of battle.



he was sure Ladd was helpless, he armdragged him to the center of the ring. Ernie, wild-eyed, spun around with his last remaining strength and aimed his foot at Pedro's groin. Ladd missed, barely grazing Pedro on the thigh. However, it did serve to enrage Pedro. Already under great pressure, Morales cracked.

He hurled Ladd to the canvas and this time made sure Ernie wouldn't get up. Pedro's powerful fingers clamped on Ladd's throat, mercilessly choking him. Ernie gasped for air and almost fell unconscious. If the referee hadn't forcibly pulled Pedro off his victim, Ladd could very well have been killed.

While Morales was restrained by the referee, Ladd was able to regain his bearings. But instead of continuing his clash with Pedro, Ernie decided to climb through the ropes and head for the safety of his dressing room.

As the referee continued to count Ernie out, Pedro paraded around the ring, hands high in triumph. When the referee's count reached 20, it was official. Pedro Morales had defeated Ernie Ladd!

Even with the victory over Ladd, Pedro continues to walk a tightrope. He'll either walk across it to the WWWF title—or topple from it to oblivion. □



Buddy Colt has been pitied by many for the injuries he suffered in an airplane crash. But the last thing Buddy wants is sympathy!

"TAKE YOUR SYMPATHY-- AND SHOVE IT!"

IF YOU WISH to extend condolences to Buddy Colt on the recent accident leaving him with an injured right leg, do so at your own risk.

"Take your sympathy and shove it!" is Buddy's usual rejoinder. "I survived through sheer guts and I recovered the same way. I'll give some credit to my Marine Corps training and my experience as a wrestler. But as far as those mealy-mouthed well-wishers out there in the world of cheap beer and dirty undershirts are concerned, they can save their sympathy for someone who's going to need it—like their punk favorites I'm going to beat up as soon as I get back to wrestling!"

Though he's walking with the aid of a cane, you have to believe Buddy will once again wreak havoc in wrestling arenas. His determination to succeed has stunned medical specialists throughout the country.

After the airplane accident claiming the life of Bobby Shane and badly injuring Gary Hart and Mike McCord, Buddy's leg became infected with gangrene. Doctors feared only an amputation could save the grappler's life. Buddy refused to let them operate.



A brace on his right foot, Colt sits and waits for Larry Hennig to get ready for his battle.

The doctors continued to treat the leg without amputating. Due to their unstinting labors and Colt's will to survive, the gangrene was cured. Although the leg was badly mangled, it was still whole.

The victory over gangrene con-

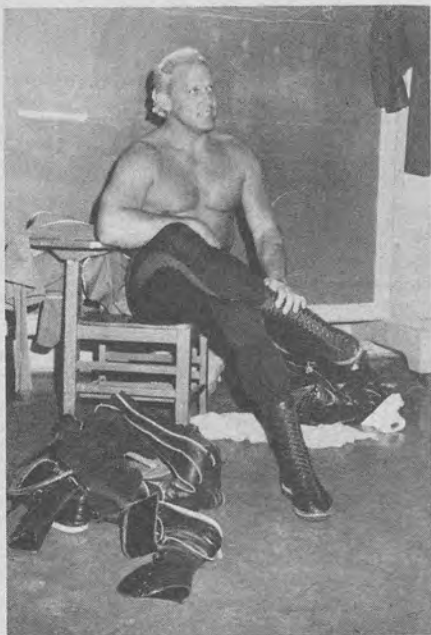
vinced Colt his leg would someday heal enough for him to resume his mat career. He anxiously awaits the day he can throw away his cane and again strut proudly into a wrestling arena. There is a lot of hatred inside Colt waiting to get out.

"The stupid people," Buddy says, "forget who's the roughest wrestler in the history of the sport. The morons are already putting me in the past. I'm coming back to show them it takes more than an accident to stop Buddy Colt! Once again, I'll own this damn sport."

Buddy does have worries, however.

"I've got a lot of enemies," Colt avers, "who will want to get me since my leg is in bad shape. They're afraid of what I'll do to them when I recover. I wouldn't put it past the sniveling rats to work me over some time in a deserted parking lot."

"Until I'm healthy, I've got to be careful. I can still take any one of the louses but I'm not so sure I can take five or six of them. I've got to be careful. But when this leg heals, and it'll be in less time than anyone thinks possible, I'll teach those snakes not to



Above: Before his accident, an anxious Colt waits for the time to enter the arena and savage an opponent. Below: Shortly after he left the hospital, Buddy is visited by his good friend, Chris Markoff. The two men are long-time friends.

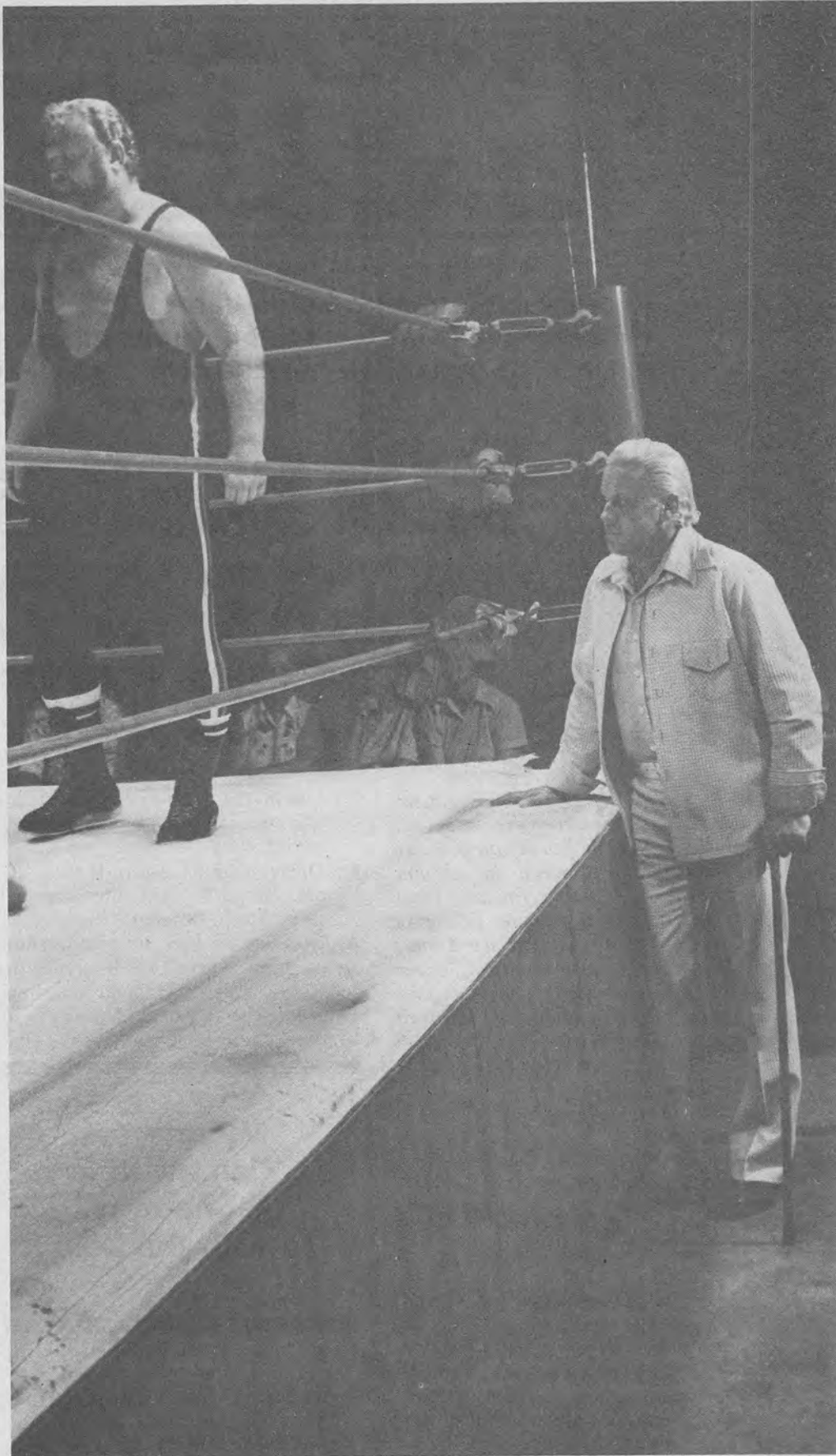


mess with me—even if they form an army!”

To pass the time and keep active in wrestling, Buddy is managing Larry “The Ax” Hennig. Though he walks with a cane, one look into his eyes discourages anyone from messing with the man. Even in the relatively mild position of manager, Buddy Colt exudes an animal violence.

“I’m coming back better than ever!” Buddy screams. Looking at the man, you’ve got to believe him. But can any man defy the best medical advice in the country?

(Continued on page 58)



Even with a cane, Buddy looks dangerous standing at ringside to make sure Larry “The Ax” Hennig is a winner; using his cane to crack Hennig’s opponent over the skull is one way Buddy insures a victory. Despite his injury, Buddy is still one of the most cruel and dangerous men alive. He can’t wait to get back to wrestling and once again feel the warm blood of his opponents on his hands.

HOTSEAT

When a wrestler sits on the "Hotseat" he is subjected to a no-holds-barred, intensive interview. The "Hotseat" seeks answers to questions others are afraid to ask. No punches are pulled. It is the kind of in-depth feature you will not find anywhere else

BILLY ROBINSON: "AMERICAN WRESTLING IS THE BEST IN THE WORLD!"

***H**ES ONE OF the most classic, scientific wrestlers in sport's history. Relying heavily on a superb amateur background, he became known in his native England while still a teenager, winning title after title. After arriving in the United States his classic battles against Verne Gagne became known as some of the most sensational bouts in the past decades. He is classy, clean cut, and a fine sportsman. He is Billy Robinson.*

Q: Welcome to the "Hotseat," Billy.

A: It's good to be here.

Q: Let's begin by talking about your early background. Did you always want to become a professional wrestler?

A: No. I had aspirations to become a school teacher, though I did take up amateur wrestling in my teens. Well, my father got sick during the days I wanted to teach. I figured my wrestling skills would earn my family good money while he was ill. So I put my best foot forward to make good in wrestling.

Q: How did you do in the early days?

A: I won the British title when I was seventeen years old, while I was still an amateur. At the same age

I won the Irish-European Open Championship. By eighteen I had turned pro.

Q: Did you find the transition from amateur to pro difficult since the styles are so different?

A: No. There's very little difference in styles. There is a difference in moves. You see, amateur wrestling is like the first two chapters in a twenty-four page book. When you

**"My interest
isn't with
Gagne now.
It's with the belt."**

graduate from those first two chapters you go to submission wrestling and finally street brawling. After that you come to the science of the sport which I think I'm quite adept at.

Q: Who was your first opponent?

A: A man named Cyril Noles from Yorkshire. I managed to beat him.

Q: How did you finally get out of England and arrive in the United

States?

A: Because of the reputation I had built up I was able to travel and wrestle in tournaments in Spain, Germany, France, and Belgium. Karl Gotch was in Belgium at the time. He was a man I was really after.

Q: Why?

A: Because he had a great style and as long a winning streak as I did.

Q: Did you ever catch up with him?

A: I wrestled Karl to a draw on three occasions in Japan.

Q: Did you learn your suplex slam from him?

A: No. There is nobody who can equal him with that move. There is nobody who is his peer when it comes to the suplex. He once suplexed Andre the Giant and did it with perfect grace, style and ease.

Q: Getting back to America...

A: Oh yes. After Belgium I went to India and then back to Europe, North Africa, and Japan where I coached a team. Then I decided to vacation in Hawaii and I ended up staying a year! I did some wrestling there and also wrestled in Calgary a few weeks later. My opponent was the then NWA champion Dory Funk Jr. I held him to a one hour



draw. Next it was Hawaii where I was spotted by AWA promoters. A deal was made for me to wrestle in their area and I was off!

Q: You wrestled Verne Gagne many times for the AWA title. Why couldn't you soundly defeat him?

A: There's no excuse I can make. Gagne is a superb athlete. A great wrestler. He is a better tactician and as wily a fox as you can find. Here in the States a title can't change hands by a disqualification—and Gagne's always got that thought up his sleeve.

Q: It sounds like you're making an excuse.

A: Not at all. When it gets to a point where he can't go any further, he'll try to get himself disqualified. The first two times I beat him—one fall

"The past year was really a tough one. My physical condition deteriorated. But now things are better than ever!"

by pin, the other fall by disqualification. Twice! I thought the first time might have been an accident, the second possibly. When it happened a third time I knew he was definitely backing away.

Q: Nick Bockwinkel dethroned Gagne for the title. Did you think Bockwinkel could do it? After all, you wrestled him many times.

A: Bockwinkel is a great athlete. He has a lot of knowledge and experience. He's also a very determined man. I don't think Bockwinkel is Gagne's equal in tactical wrestling. Verne may have had an off night.

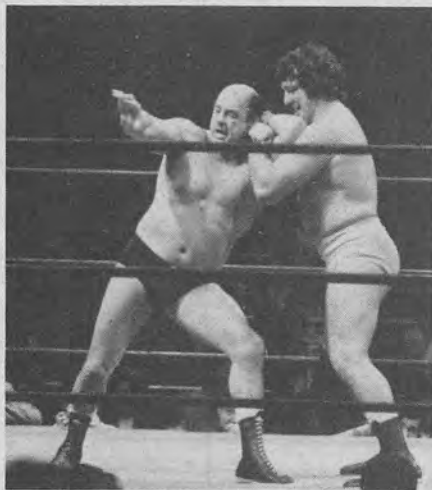
Q: Have you wrestled Nick since he won the belt?

A: Five days later. I beat him, but it was a non-title match.

Q: Even though Gagne doesn't have the belt, will you still try to get a clear cut victory over him?

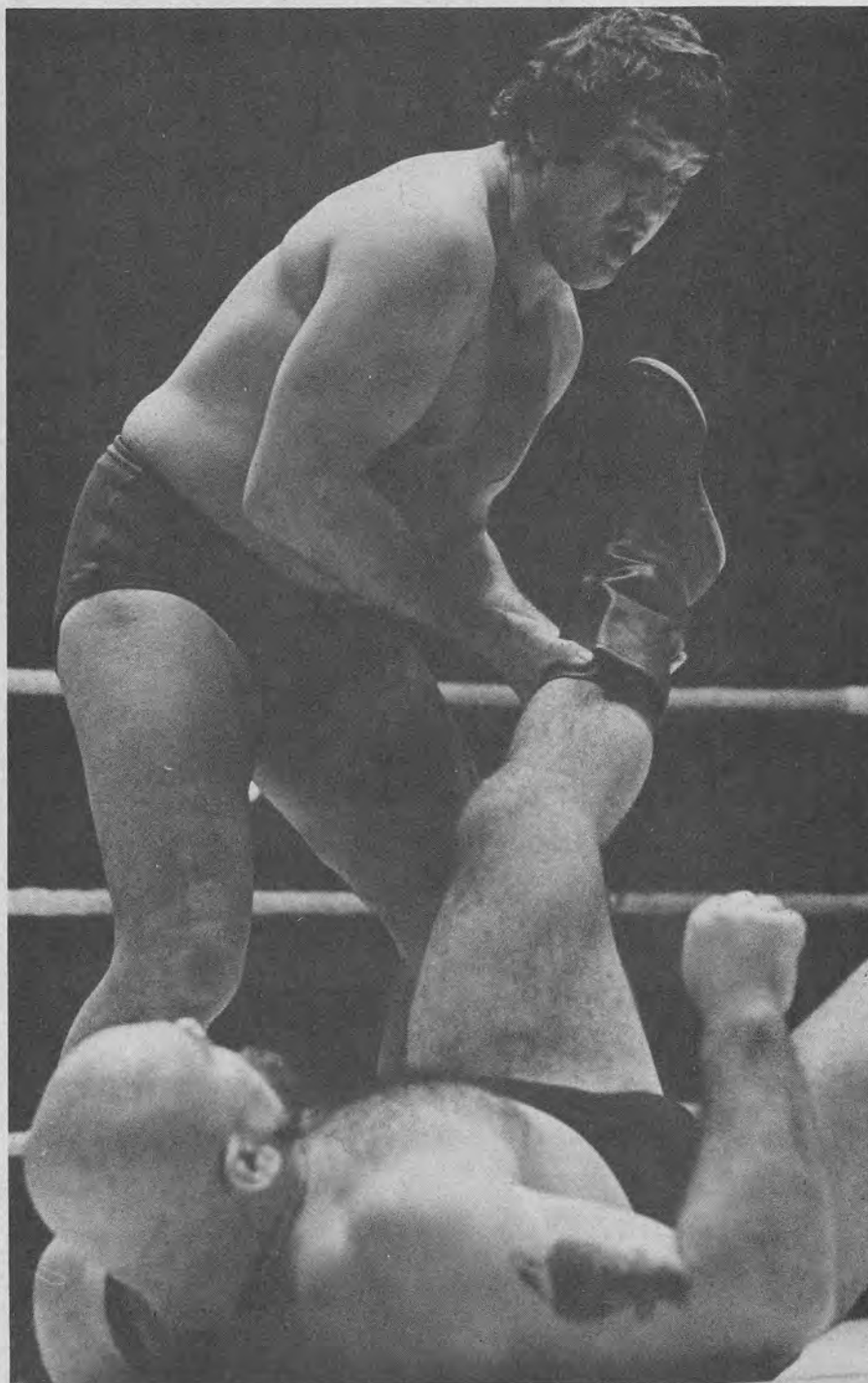
A: My interest in defeating Verne Gagne as a man is nil right now. I have proven to myself I can beat him. Without the belt Gagne is just another match. My interest isn't with Gagne now. It's with the belt.

Q: You've been wrestling in NWA and WWF areas in recent months.



There are few combatants in the sport of professional wrestling with Billy Robinson's enviable record against scientific and rulebreaking grapplers. In a career which has spanned the globe, Billy has yet to flee from a challenge; he has yet to be humiliated in any bout against anyone. The only one of his dreams yet to become a reality is winning the AWA championship. Now that Verne Gagne is no longer the king of that association, Billy has an excellent chance of winning the belt for which he has been struggling his entire career.





Did you leave the AWA because you were disgusted you didn't win the belt?

A: No. I thought I was getting into a mental rut. I wanted to blossom out. I had heard about different wrestlers around the United States. American wrestling is the best. I've wrestled all over the world.

Q: Go on with the story about your mental rut.

A: The past year was really a tough one. I had five months off due to an injury. I had an eye operation. I had chicken pox. My physical condition deteriorated. I came back on a hard workout route. My body didn't stand up to it at first. I kept getting injured. But now things are better than ever!

Q: Let's discuss tactics. You're a good scientific wrestler. Do roughhouse

**"Right now we
may be at the apex
of violence in
wrestling!"**

tactics employed by men like Baron Von Raschke and Billy Graham have a place in wrestling?

A: I like British rules better. The referee has much more control over a match. If a man breaks a rule more than three times he's disqualified. In pro wrestling here, aside from being a great tactician, you have to use roughhouse tactics since the rules are more relaxed and guys try to win any way they can. You've got to be a tactical streetfighter.

Q: Where do you think wrestling is headed, Billy?

A: I think like everything, wrestling travels in cycles. Right now we may be at the apex of violence in wrestling. Eventually the cycle will take us to the scientific end again.

Q: We did a story a few years ago about the dream driving Billy Robinson, namely the heavyweight title. What is your dream now?

A: Billy Robinson doesn't have a dream. He believes in the reality that he knows he can win the world title. And then the other two federations will be invited by me to have a wrestle-off for the undisputed title. That would suite me down to the ground. I believe in having one champion.

Q: Thank you, Billy.

A: It was a pleasure.

□

ON THE TROPICAL islands of Samoa, wrestling was once one of many sports enjoyed by the happy natives. The desire to maim or cripple was unknown; a man would rather lose than injure an opponent. Then the outside world came in.

From its pastoral lifestyle, the Samoans were overwhelmed by foreigners wishing to sell them

modern conveniences. The salesmen also taught the natives about greed, jealousy and conceit. Many did their best to ignore the newcomers; others were fascinated by what was presented before them. Those learning the new ways were never the same again. They became products of two opposing cultures.

The ambition imported by the new

settlers found a welcome home in the minds of two young Samoans. These men had long established themselves as the finest athletes on the island. When they heard of the riches available to professional athletes, especially wrestlers, both were delighted.

However, being alone in a world they were only beginning to understand terrified the two men. There-

THE ISLANDERS



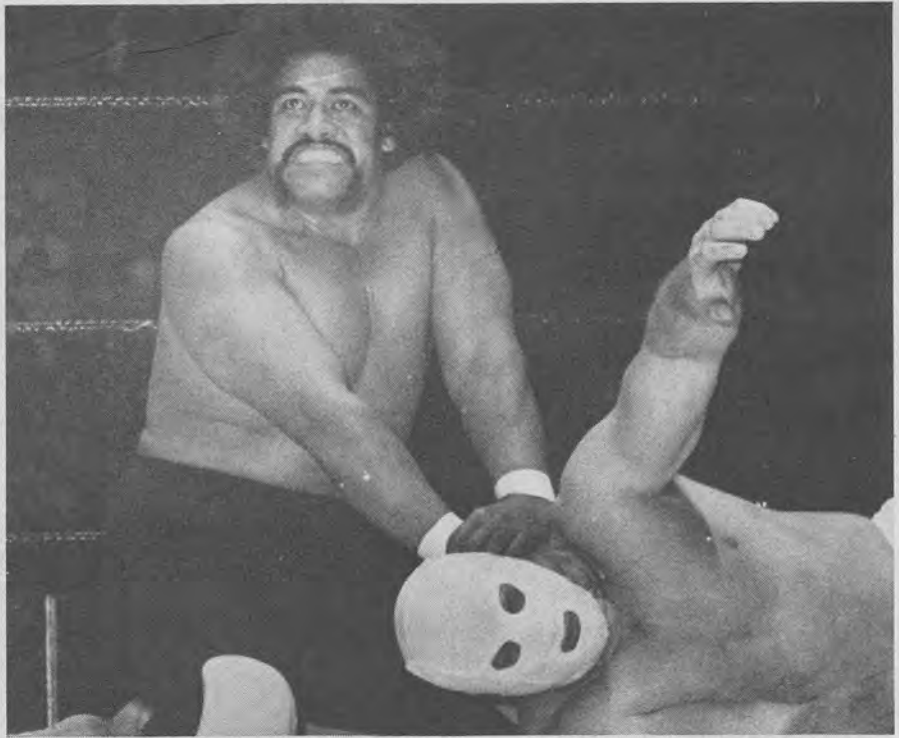
WRESTLING'S NEWEST TAG TEAM SENSATION

fore, they were delighted at the possibility of working together as a professional wrestling tag team. Together, they booked passage on a tramp steamer and worked their way to the United States.

The first thing they did upon reaching the American shores was to travel to a wrestling arena. There, mouths open in horror, they discovered the brutality inherent in tag team wrestling. All they had held holy as children was contrasted with the savagery of the profession they had chosen. Two sorrowful men stayed up all night wondering if they should return home.

Early the next morning, they reached a decision. They had learned from the foreigners well; their lust for wealth meant more than their gentle heritage. As the dawn rose over the city, the Islanders were born.

In the first few months of the partnership, the Islanders found themselves being brutalized time and time again. They had no



The powerful fingers of the Islander clamp down on the neck of a Masked Crusader. Even though his face is covered, one can see the victim's agony through the slits for his eyes. The Islanders can become the most vicious tag team around when they are outraged.

Every so often, the wrestling profession is turned upside down by the appearance of a great new tag team. The Islanders are such a team

knowledge of the viciousness athletes were capable of wreaking upon opponents. But slowly and painfully, they learned. And even more painfully, they turned their backs on the culture they sprang from. In less than a year, they could be as vicious as any tag team in the world.

However, they could never forget everything they had learned. Whenever possible, the Islanders would wrestle with the primitive joy they remembered from Samoa. But when the action got rough, the Islanders learned to get rougher.

Their reputation has grown with their ability to handle themselves. They are universally feared and respected. No one can predict how the pair will wrestle on any given night.

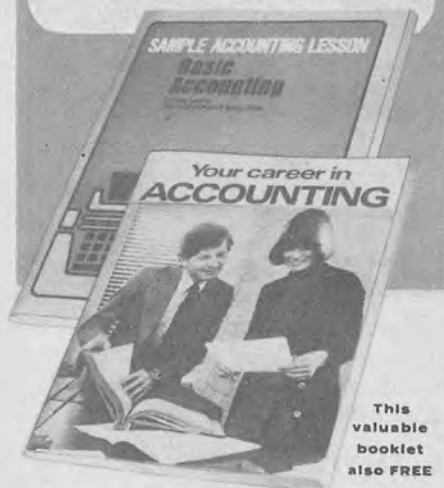
"I've seen them wrestle strictly by the book," a Masked Crusader declares, "and I've seen them turn into animals without any real provocation. I don't think they even know what they're going to do before a match.

"They haven't really adjusted to
(Continued on page 62)



A Masked Crusader is armdragged to the canvas by an Islander. It took The Islanders very little time to learn the many scientific maneuvers it takes to become professionals after they landed in the United States. In their native Samoa, the two men had only learned the relatively gentle moves which are used on the island.

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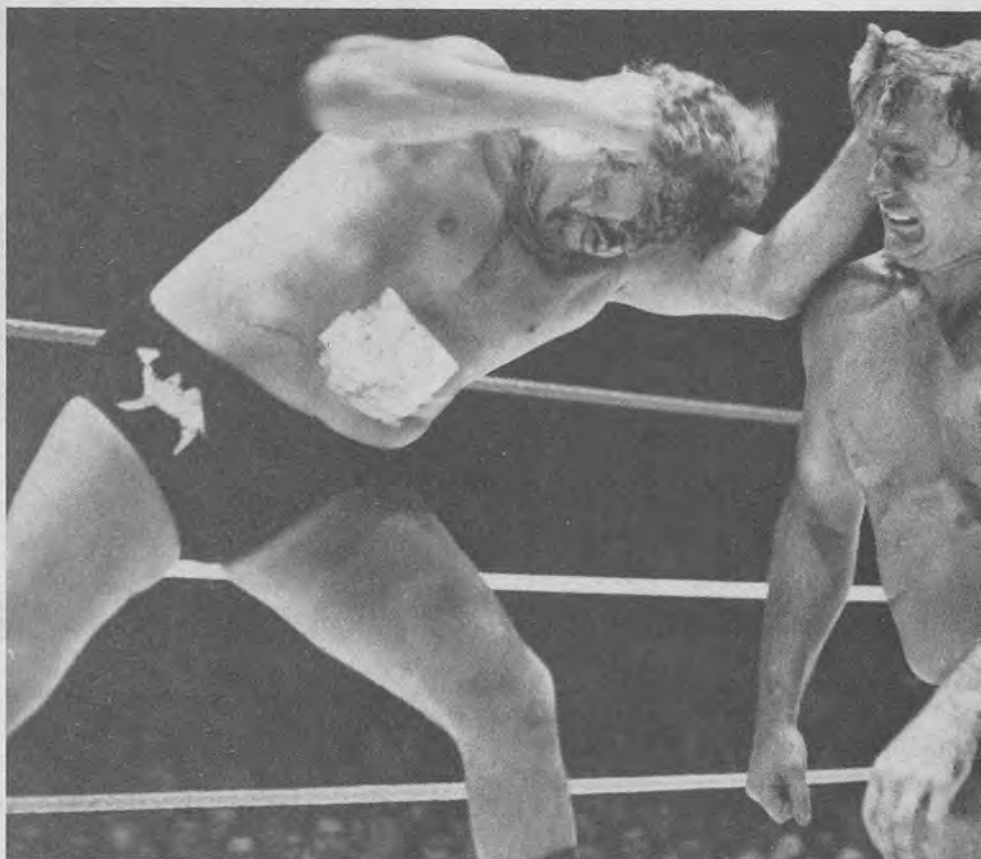
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RETURN OF THE SHEIK

(Continued from Page 18)



Sheik both gives (above) and gets punishment (left) during his comeback confrontation against tough Johnny Rougeau.



Sheik began by slowly approaching Johnny, carefully seeking an open opportunity to attack. Rougeau became confused by this procedure. But still Sheik waited for the right moment.

Rougeau decided to rush Sheik instead of waiting any further. This was the moment Sheik had waited for. He stood poised while Rougeau began his rush. Then, with his arms outstretched, Sheik stopped the assault as Rougeau bounced off Sheik's massive hands and landed on the canvas. Sheik ran over to his opponent to take control.

But Johnny was too quick for Sheik. He jumped up and grabbed Sheik's chin. Then he landed a composure and scrambled to his feet. Again he rushed toward Rougeau, this time catching Johnny by the stomach. Rougeau went sailing to the floor. Sheik tried to force Johnny to stay down, but Rougeau was able to squirm free. Sheik grabbed Johnny again and shoved him against the ropes. Then he hurled his whole weight against Rougeau, forcing Johnny's head between the ropes. Then Sheik began choking Rougeau with the rope.

The referee broke the two wrestlers up and sent them back to opposite corners. When the action resumed, no one knew what to expect, especially Johnny Rougeau.




barrage of punches on Sheik's face, opening cuts on his forehead and around his eyes. Then to complete the assault, Rougeau punched Sheik in the stomach, slightly opening the sutures.

The referee stepped in and called a halt to the match because Sheik was bleeding badly. An Arabian curse came forth from Sheik. He wanted to continue the match, claiming he would beat Rougeau if given the chance. But just at that moment, the team of doctors attending Sheik rushed in to help their patient back to the dressing room and administer medication to the wounds.

A few minutes later one of the doctors emerged from the dressing room and made a statement for the waiting press. "The Sheik is resting now," the physician began. "It is unfortunate the match had to end this way. It is our considered opinion Sheik is in good physical condition. We do not feel he must be restrained from wrestling. In a week, all effects of the operation should be cleared up, and he will be able to return to his work full-time. We have told him this, and he said he wished to have a rematch against Rougeau to determine the real winner of this match.

"It is our opinion Sheik will win the rematch." □



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SINCERELY YOURS

(Continued from Page 12)



wrestler since Maria LaVerne, who I consider the best ever.

I can't wait until Early decides to tour the country. Every arena in the country will want to book her. Who would believe a girl that beautiful can also wrestle.

Girl wrestling will be much better if Early starts appearing more often. If she becomes champion, it'll probably become bigger than men's wrestling!

VERNON RHODES
Baltimore, Maryland

NO CHEATING OCCURRED

How dare Bulldog Brower accuse Ivan Kalmikoff, Mighty Igor's manager, of cheating ("I'm Gonna Get a Manager To Cheat For Me, Too!" [INSIDE WRESTLING/ January 1976])? It's just like Brower to try to lie his way out of something.

I was at that match and take my word for it—Kalmikoff didn't keep Brower on that stretcher; Bulldog was too hurt to move. Mighty Igor won that match fair and square!

Brower has no right to accuse two great men like Igor and Ivan of cheating. I hope next time Igor shuts Brower's mouth for good!

PRISCILLA BYRE
Union, New Jersey

Fans disagree with Bulldog Brower's analysis of his match against Mighty Igor (above) They do agree with our article predicting a bright future for mat star Raul Mata (below).



EXCELLENT PREDICTION

I couldn't agree more with "Wrestler on the Brink of Superstardom" (INSIDE WRESTLING/ January 1976), the article about Raul Mata. His fans have known for years he's the best in the business!



Ray Stevens pounds his foot into Dick Murdoch's skull to prevent Murdoch from pinning Ray's partner, Blackjack Mulligan. Murdoch has taken more punishment than most grapplers in his wild and very brutal career. Many veteran mat experts contend Dick takes too many risks and accepts too great challenges. Fans, however, are strongly in favor of a man whose courage knows no real bounds.

I was going to write about my memories of Raul's best matches—but I discovered there were too many of them. He's such a great athlete, every match is super!

Within a year, Raul will be known as one of the top five wrestlers in the world. He's worked hard and earned the honor. Raul Mata is a credit to professional sports.

BOBBY WALDEN
San Francisco, California

THE GREATER QUALITY

When you ask "Does Dick Murdoch Have More Guts Than Brains?" (INSIDE WRESTLING/January 1976), you make it sound as if Dick shouldn't have made his challenge to Ray Stevens and Larry Hennig. I think you are wrong to say that.

Dick did the honorable, if more dangerous, thing. Sometimes, a man has to take risks, no matter what the consequences. Dick did what he had to do. A man of dignity had no choice.

I think you should praise Dick without question rather than wonder about his intelligence—which is equal to his integrity!

WINIFRED FITZMAURICE
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BATTLE ROYAL

(Continued from Page 33)



Above: Action is furious along the ropes as wrestlers struggle to eliminate men who are trying just as determinedly to stay in the fray. Below: Bob Jagers, from the second ring, drives a hard elbow smash into the head of a trapped and terrified Red Bastien.



Slowly, but inevitably, men fell from the second ring and were eliminated. Ray Stevens and Killer Brooks had to be restrained by Elliot Levy's crack special police force after they had toppled for the second time. Both men intended to go back in and try for a third chance.

For a while, the battle between police and Brooks was almost as exciting as the action happening in the two rings.

Eventually, only Red Bastien remained in the first ring. He waited for one wrestler to throw the others out. Rested, he would then attack the weary survivor. It appeared as if the small fortune already belonged to Red. It was only a matter of time before he would be able to spend it.

The savage free-for-all continued in the second ring while Red watched. First Terry and then Dory Jr. were added to the growing list of disqualified. Then Ricky Romero toppled to the cement floor. One by one, the battle thinned out as the disappointed retreated to the dressing room.

Soon, the sole occupant in the second ring was Bob Jagers. To attain this achievement, Jagers performed some of the foulest maneuvers of the vicious brawl. It is a miracle none of Bob's opponents left the arena a cripple. For \$10,000, some men will do almost anything.



With a graceful leap, Red bounded over the ropes to take on the last opponent. If he thought this encounter would be easy, the first 15 seconds proved how wrong he was. Jagers smelled the check like a starving animal can smell meat; he would have to be destroyed before he would surrender the prize!

So the last and most savage brawl of the night commenced. Each man brawled to the best of his ability; rules were ignored in this battle for the fortune. The blood on Jagers' face distorted every feature. His wounds were horrible to see. One wonders what Jagers prizes more than money. It cannot be a long list.

It looked like the end when Bastien captured Jagers in a high scissors throw. Bob staggered across the ring, hardly able to control his actions. He almost went over the ropes but clung to them, thereby saving himself. Then, he made one last attempt to win. He hurled himself into Bastien, hoping his weight and power would topple his foe. Bastien, not prepared for this reckless maneuver, found himself pushed into the ropes.

Red was standing on rubbery legs after the ropes stopped his retreat. He was badly hurt but Jagers was equally brutalized. The winner would be the man who could recuperate enough to push his groggy foe over the ropes.

The two men locked in the middle of the ring. Grotesquely, they

Jagers manages to get back in the ring while Bastien tries but can't quite make it back (above). Finally, the referee raises Bob's hand in victory and the money is his (below).



stumbled to the ropes. Thinking only of hurling the other over the ropes, they used all their strength to that end. Neither thought of remaining in the ring himself. Astonishingly, both men toppled over the rope.

Both were dazed by the fall but Jagers landed on his back while Bastien cracked his head. Bob was able to get back in the ring; Red's body refused to obey his mind's commands.

Exhausted, Jagers lay on the canvas as the referee raised his hand in victory. We don't doubt Bob was thinking there are easier ways to earn \$10,000! □

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BOCKWINKLE AND STEVENS

(Continued from Page 21)



When Bockwinkle and Stevens are at their best, Ray could always manage to find Nick for a tag (above), giving the weary partner time to recover. As a result of this splendid teamwork, Nick and Ray were the proud holders of the AWA championship (below). They had since lost the title and now seem to be headed on a course which will mean their eventual split. Can the tag team be saved?



Neither one will take responsibility for what's happened, so each will blame the other. The angrier they get, the worse they're going to wrestle.

"Within five months, if they keep going the way they are now, Nick and Ray won't be a team. Each one will be doing his best without trusting the other. They'll go from the toughest team around to pushovers. Every guy who has reason to hate them, and there are hundreds, will pair off and go after Bockwinkle and Stevens. The two will become easy pickings.

"Once they start getting battered as a matter of course, they'll split up and go their separate ways. If they don't solve their problems within six months, their finished as a tag team."

Neither Crusher nor Bruiser will venture a guess as to what has happened between Bockwinkle and Stevens. Ray and Nick have refused to discuss the matter with anyone. They are managing to win most of their matches, but just barely, rather than convincingly. Until they start losing match after match it's doubtful they'll



Crusher is in trouble during a tag team match in which his partner was Billy Robinson. As the partner of Bruiser, Crusher had greater success—or were his opponents less effective?

publicly admit there is any problem between them.

However, their manager, Bobby Heenan, has gone out of his way to end speculation about the pair's future. To anyone who'll listen, he'll tell his version of the trouble between the pair. "All anyone has accused Nick and Ray of losing is just a little crispness," Heenan contends. "That's understandable when you look at their schedule. Do you realize the quality opponents they face all the time, week after week? Any other two guys would be dead by now!

"I've asked them to take a month's vacation. Just relax and forget about wrestling. But I know they won't because they're enjoying themselves too much. They'd rather wrestle together than lie on some beach soaking up sun. Are you going to tell me these guys are fighting among themselves?

"When all is said and done, they're still the best damn tag team in the world. And all these stupid rumors will be dead within a month. That's when Nick and Ray will win back the AWA tag team title! They'll be champions again."

A lot of wrestlers have vowed to destroy the tag team of Bockwinkle and Stevens. Wouldn't it be strange if Bockwinkle and Stevens wound up destroying themselves? ☐

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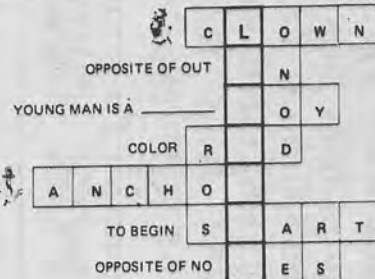
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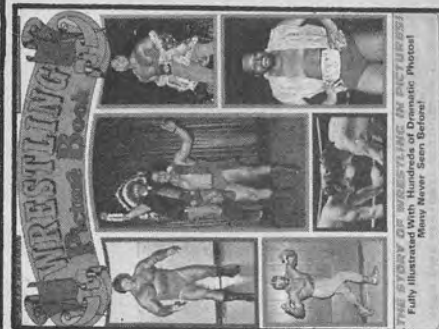
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TERRY FUNK

(Continued from Page 28)



Above: After Terry falls from the ring and tries to get back in, Race leaps over the ropes to resume his attack. Above right, opposite page: With all his famous power, Terry sends Race to the canvas as hard as any man can be thrown! Race is lucky he didn't wind up in the hospital with a broken back after the hard fall!

Harley caught his opponent and employed an armlock on Terry. Now he renewed his verbal attack on Funk. The enraged Terry writhed in pain from the hold, but Harley's insults stung even more. Only an enormous amount of will power restrained Terry from killing his opponent when he finally broke free from Race's vise-like grip.

Determined not to let his temper get the better of him, Terry began a cautious attack on Race, only occasionally kicking and punching his opponent. Then Harley made a bad error in judgement; he yelled to Terry, "What's the matter, kid? Can't you get

yourself together and do anything to stop me?"

When Terry heard that, he lost control of his temper. He unleashed a brutal assault on Race, consisting of brutal kicks and punches to his body, practically knocking Harley senseless. Then he grabbed Harley's body and slammed it against the ropes. It happened so quickly Race was not sure what hit him.

Funk was relentless in his attack. The moment Harley was down, Terry would pick him up and slam him against the ropes again. Finally, Funk picked Race up and bodyslammed him. Then Terry kicked Harley



through the ropes and into the laps of the first row spectators in the audience.

And then Harley made his worst mistake of the evening. He figured he could pounce on Funk if he climbed to the top rope and jumped into the ring. He stated climbing over the ropes. Then he took a step backward and perched himself on the top rope. With a great burst of energy, he pounced on Terry, who narrowly avoided the attack with a quick sidestep.

At this point, the referee disqualified Race for his pounce from the top rope, a move illegal for that arena. Harley stomped out of the ring and back to his dressing room.

Terry stood triumphantly, listening to the crowd's cheers. Then he announced, "I will be champion. I want a chance at Jack Brisco now. By defeating Harley Race, I have earned the right to battle for the belt!" Then he turned around and walked back to his dressing room.

With the steam he's been building up, Terry's push for the championship could very well see him wearing the world belt in the very near future. □

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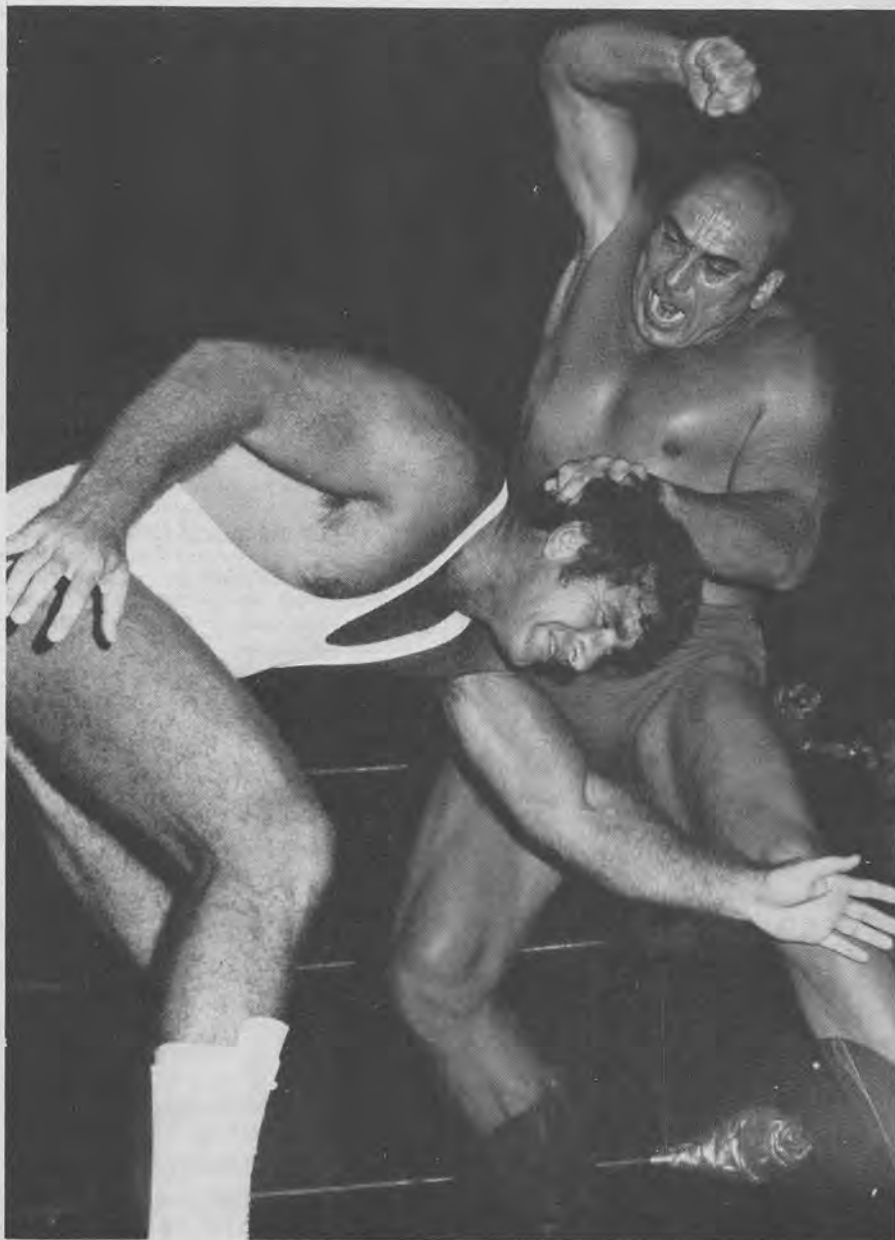
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PUT A PAIR OF GLOVES ON

(Continued from Page 31)



*In a previous match to the boxing confrontation, Stomper pounds
at Armstrong with a series of rabbit punches. It is not only
Stomper's feet which can be brutally dangerous to his opponents!*

and informing him he was up against a
stylish opponent. After it was
peppered with jabs, Stomper's face
betrayed his discomfort.

As Stomper retreated to regain his
bearings, Armstrong waded in to
attack. Rights and lefts sailed into
Stomper's face and body; his legs grew
rubbery and his eyes became glassy. In
less than two minutes, it all looked
over.

Due to his excellent conditioning
and determination, Stomper lasted the

first three minute round. He wobbled
over to his corner where he listened to
Wright's instructions. Then, with a
crooked smile on his lips, Stomper
returned to the battle.

Stomper danced away from
Armstrong in the beginning moments
of round two. Bob kept following his
foe around the ring. After a minute of
twisting and turning, Armstrong had
no idea in which corner waited Bearcat
Wright.

"Watch it!" Gomez screamed when



Pepper Gomez helps Armstrong on with the gloves and will later stop any interference from the unscrupulous manager of Stomper, the notorious Bearcat Wright.

he saw what was happening. "You're in Wright's corner! Move to your left! Move away from there!"

But Gomez' warnings were too late. Before Armstrong realized what had happened, his legs went out from under him. Wright had grabbed his ankle and brought him to the canvas. From there, Stomper demonstrated how he got his name.

With lightening speed, Stomper leaped in the air and smashed his foot hard into Armstrong's chest. This was followed by a kick to Bob's head, almost snapping the wrestler's neck from the force. Armstrong tried to get away from the attack but he couldn't move fast enough. It is a miracle he was not knocked unconscious from the kicks!

The referee saw what was happening and disqualified Stomper for outside interference. At that moment, Gomez leaped into the ring and went after Stomper. Both Wright and Stomper saw the enraged Gomez charging and decided to retreat to the dressing room.

The next day, Armstrong was asked if he'd ever box Mongolian Stomper again.

Bob smiled as he said, "I'll box him again if he's willing to put gloves on his feet!" □

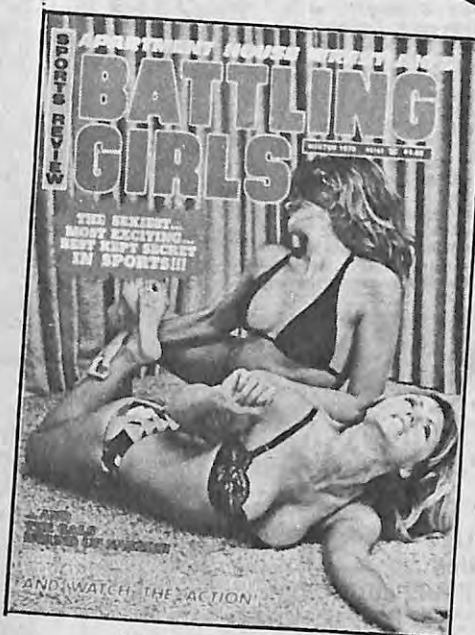
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HALF ALIVE?

TAKE YOUR SYMPATHY

(Continued from Page 39)



As one of the most brutal of professional wrestlers, Colt added to his reputation by the merciless slaughter of Klondike Bill (above) and the savaging of Don Muraco (below), only two of the many men Buddy has reduced to gory senselessness!



Doctors everywhere have stated Colt should never wrestle again. Even though they marvel at his recuperative abilities, they all agree no human body can heal sufficiently to allow Buddy an athlete's living. Of course, most of them wanted to remove his leg, then declared he would never walk without the aid of a cane. He has confounded them so far. Can he keep it up?

One doctor, wishing to remain anonymous, declared, "It takes more time for Colt to heal properly than a professional athlete can afford. I've been training athletes for years; I've seen many men with injuries equal to Buddy's. They've all tried to come back. They've all failed."

"But that doesn't mean it is impossible. The human body is a remarkable machine. Any doctor who says something is impossible is an idiot."

Buddy Colt is facing the toughest challenge of his career. He has met all the other challenges. Even those with a right to despise Colt—and their number is legion—have to wish him luck. If one human can do the impossible, we all can.

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"Hi, big fella, come and enjoy me!" "Hey, man, feel me, hold me close!"

WRESTLING CAPITALS

(Continued from Page 10)

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Blackjack Lanza confers with his manager, Captain Lou Albano, before doing battle against Bruno Sammartino. Both men held the advantage at various times, but Bruno was able to win in the end.

Spoiler was infuriated. He lashed out at Brisco with kicks and punches. Finally, Spoiler became so enraged, he slugged the referee! Hart ran into the ring to assist Spoiler while the referee was knocked out. He placed Spoiler on Brisco in a body press position. Then Hart left the ring. The referee recovered and disqualified Spoiler! He had remembered what happened and didn't let Spoiler and Hart get away with it.

Bobo Brazil went to a no contest with Moondog Mayne in a bloody encounter... Mr. Wrestling II & Dick Slater stomped Nikoli Volkoff and Brute Bernard... Paul Jones downed "Crazy" Luke Graham.

PITTSBURGH POWER By Dave Creedon

Huge Blackjack Mulligan tried to wrest the WWF championship belt from the waist of Bruno Sammartino at Pittsburgh's Civic Arena in one of Bruno's toughest title matches to date.

The match seesawed wildly in the brawl with both men gaining and losing the advantage. It appeared Mulligan might be successful when he

clamped his dreaded clawhold on the champion. Only Bruno's vaunted strength allowed him to escape from this most excruciating of holds.

Once free, Bruno and Mulligan began running the ropes. Then, Bruno smashed into Blackjack with a magnificent flying body press and the match was all over.

Mulligan's tag team partner, Blackjack Lanza, took on rugged Dom DeNucci. Lanza tried to end it quickly with clawholds but this proved to be his undoing. Dom ducked under Lanza's outstretched hand and captured his foe in an airplane spin. From that moment on, Lanza was finished.

Billy "Superstar" Graham overwhelmed Pistol Pete Sanchez. Pete gamely tried to defeat the world famous mat star but succumbed to Graham's agonizing bearhug.

Tony Parisi and Louis Cerdan, battling magnificently in recent weeks, upset Frank Durso and Hangman Jim Grabmire... Johnny DeFazio held Big Bill Miller to a stalemate... The fighting cop, Frank Holtz, atomic elbow smashed the Red Menace into dreamland. □

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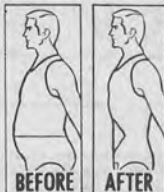
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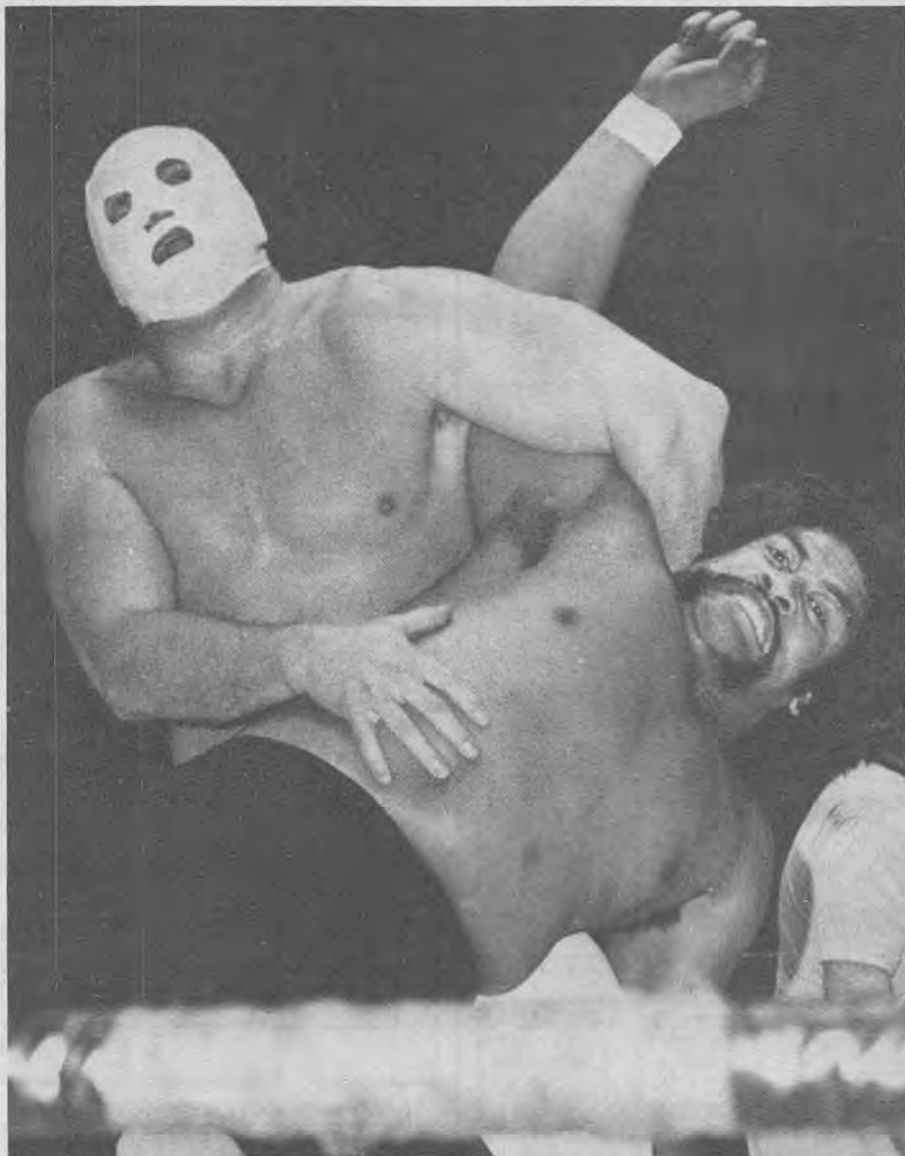
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THE ISLANDERS

(Continued from Page 45)



Though he is being tortured in an abdominal stretch, the Islander refuses to submit. The two Islanders had never known real pain in their bouts in Samoa. They had to learn to withstand pain in actual matches. Their desire to become great mat stars was much greater than the fear of being bloodied or permanently crippled.

the change of cultures, if you ask me. Samoans are known for following their emotions. All of a sudden, you give people like that reason to be angry and they're out of control. The Islanders want to wrestle scientifically but they can't control themselves. You force basically gentle guys to be violent and all hell breaks loose.

"That's what makes them so interesting to wrestle against. You can't prepare for just one style; you've got to be ready for anything. Wrestling the Islanders is one of the most exciting challenges this sport provides. I know we're a better tag

team after wrestling that pair; we learn something new every time.

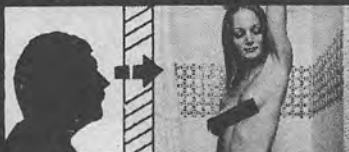
Many wrestlers echo these sentiments. They realize the Islanders are unpredictable and capable of savage brutality. Yet, they are also excellent athletes, exciting grapplers. Outside the arena, both men are gentle and considerate. However, they have learned to exact vicious revenge wherever they are.

The Islanders have come a long way from their pastoral life in Samoa. Most wrestling experts feel their future is one of the brightest in the sport. □

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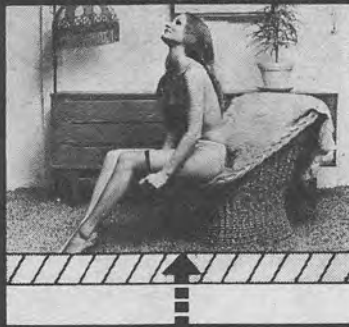
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THE WRESTLERS VISIT THE TOMORROW SHOW

(Continued from Page 29)

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Above: Snyder and Vince McMahon Jr. listen as Bruno Sammartino tells of the rigorous life he endures as the WWF king. Later in the telecast, Bruno would spar with Frank Monte and demonstrate his world famous abilities. Bruno proved he was in complete control as a speaker and a grappler. Left: Kitty Adams gets Donna Christenello in a stepover toehold in an actual bout which took place on the show.



happening. Gorilla stressed the danger inherent in every move. Monte was none too pleased about being the victim in these many maneuvers. Frank, who trusts no one, grew angrier and angrier as Bruno gently threw him to the mat. Frank decided to mount an impromptu attack. The nationwide audience then discovered why it is a bad idea to go after Bruno Sammartino. Monte was fleeing back to the dressing room in less than 30 seconds!

The highlight of the evening was the

interview with this magazine's wrestling reporter, Bill Apter. Along with wrestling commentator Dick Layne, Bill recounted the more memorable moments of his illustrious career. Snyder sat transfixed while Apter told of his many adventures traveling around the world to unearth the most interesting stories around. Snyder was awed by Apter's tales of terror and achievement.

This interview was followed by Dick Layne announcing an actual match between local mat star Kitty Adams



and Donna Christenello. It was a wild catfight thrilling the fans in the TV studio. It proved to viewers women grapplers can be just as rough and tough as the men!

Finally, Billy "Superstar" Graham strutted into the studio. Snyder was a bit awed, along with everyone else, by the man's love of himself. Billy happily showed off his physique for the television audience, obviously imagining the millions of women sighing in the privacy of their bedrooms.

The audience kept snickering at Graham's claims, which didn't seem to phase Billy one bit. Snyder could not understand why Graham would pursue a profession where he was taunted and derided.

"I make \$200,000 a year," was Billy's explanation for not caring what the fans think. Snyder then understood perfectly.

Snyder still had many unanswered questions. It takes more than an hour to profile any sport. Snyder may have another show on the sport to pursue the subject in more depth.

Fans all over the country stayed up late that night to watch this remarkable show. Though they may have been bleary-eyed as they went to work or school the next day, it was well worth the inconvenience! □

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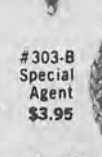
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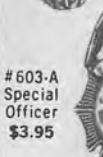
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You'll listen in as a guy just like yourself successfully picks up a gorgeous girl in a string bikini. You'll actually hear the voices of the people involved: the guy, as he begins to work his magic... and the girl, as she falls willing victim to his charm. Absolutely *everything* is spelled out for you, from attention-getting opening lines... through seductive, irresistible talk that gets a girl to really open up to you... to foolproof closing lines that get you her telephone number, a date, and sometimes even her body right then and there. Unbelievable? You won't think so when you suddenly find yourself gliding down the street with a beautiful golden stranger on your arm.

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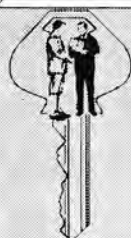
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